CELEBRATING 100 'NEW X-MEN' ISSUES AND...

..THE 21st ISSUE OF...

CEREBRO

VOL 4 NO. 21

85p

THE X-MEN FAN CLUBZINE

THE X-MEN FAN CLUB X-ETORIAL

No. 21 Vol. 4

Hello Club members & on-lookers,

I think sometimes pictures speak louder than words & hence the cover of this CEREBRO will celebrate CHRIS CLAREMONT's 100 issues of X-MEN & next CEREBRO we'll take a look at his carrer in writing the mutants so far.

On a sadder note, I'm sorry about the rise in cost of £ 21 if this is your first sampler issue. It was really unavoidable if we're going to cover the rise in paper costs (gone up some 20% in the last 6 months) its a question of either cutting back on pages (which means somethings have to be put back until £ 22) or rise prices. This issue we did both. Whether this will affect the subscription rate will have to wait until next CEREBRO - but it will remain static until that time.

Anyway, editorials are not meant to be places for excuses but an arena to open up a point of discussion.

In active fandom at present there are loud voices disapproving of the super-hero genera & MARVEL COMICS in general. The results of last CEREBRO's SURVEY shows that the membership buys not only MARVEL, but also that of DC & the INDEPENDENT companies' comics. However, the fact that the Club is based around the X-MEN & its inter-related titles we end up being a target.

I mean, why should we like to read super-hero comics. Why don't we be trendy & follow whichever is the current craze at the time ?? Can't our interest in comics both encase what--ever we want to read. There are still a lot of people which get immense pleasure out of characters running around in their long johns. Sure we might also read AMERICAN FLAGG but does that stop us reading super-hero books too ??

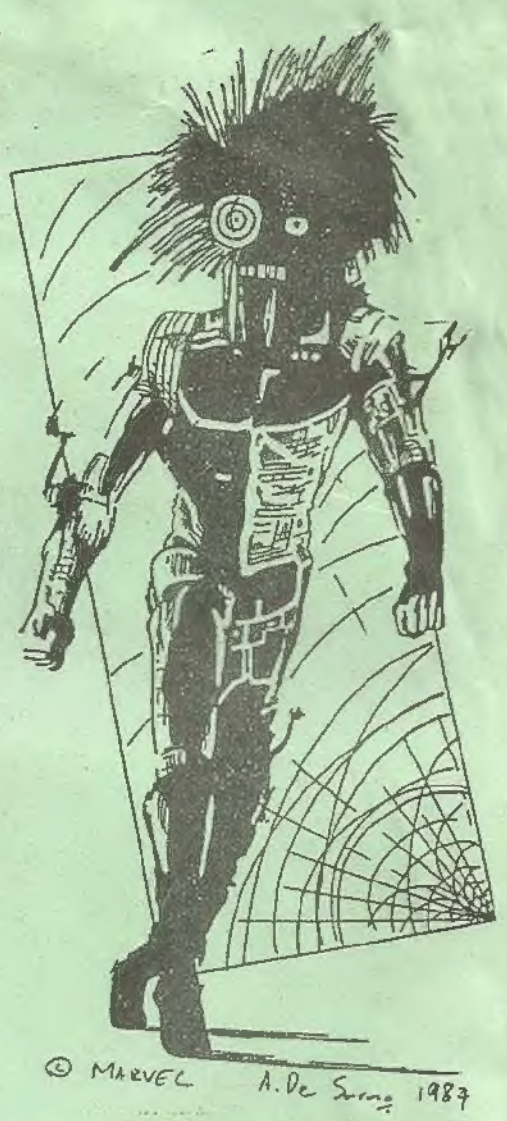
Super-heroes are made for comics. One only has to witness transitions of them into novelisations or even onto TV or the cinema screen to realize there is something wrong. Super-heroes require a visual medium to express them in.

Non-super-hero comics can do better in that respect. ELFQUEST has been both comic & novel with high hopes for a film. Undoubtably, even FLAGG could be equally so adaptable. However, unlike super-hero titles, the non-super comics find themselves in competition with the main-stream paperbacks from where many of the ideas have originated from. Super-hero comics do this too, I'm not making any excuses here. The quest--ion here is inevitably do you pick up a non-super comic or go for a paperback.

Now I have nothing against non-super comics. I do have low opinions of people of people who want to enforce their tastes on others. By all means, reveal the non-super stuff & say how stunning it is, but deriding another section of the comics field for the sake of it displays an inverted snobbery. An interest in the comics field as a whole encases everything. When you decide on how you are going to orientate your reading tastes you can soon discover people of a similar disposition. I mean, that's largely what the Club is here for - we cater to those comic readers who have a taste/liking for the X-MEN.

Over the years, my tastes have not so much changed but grown. They encase the super-hero genera, but they also enclude AMERICAN FLAGG, ELFQUEST, MARS, the SPIRIT & lately, CEREBUS THE AARVARK. Discovering over the last year or so that my tastes are based around exploring other realities, I realised why I like the MARVEL UNIVERSE so much. Unlike books where everything is laid down, something like the MARVEL UNIVERSE is changing contantly every month. Of course there are blunders & mistakes but far from distracting it only intensifies the interest. It makes me less a passive reader & more of one who wants to discuss topics that have come up.

Why should MARVEL attract a greater following than DC - which also tackles the same genera can be left open to debate. Certainly continuity must enter into it - & MARVEL are even tightening up on that. It may just be familarity, liking & the general entertainment value they provide. The sales figures do speak for themselves, afterall someone is buying the comics.



If you feel that the super-hero genera isn't getting its fair share of exposure in fandom. Then speak out. Let everyone know that you care about the comics that you read as much as those who decry your tastes.

Motivate yourselves. Feel enflamed. Do something. You should not let anybody walk all over you.

Sermon nearly over. I need some more motivation on the homefront. Look, if we're going to do anything with computer/video newsletters, member chess games, writing to sick members or a list of availability & interests for particsipation in other fanzines, then I must have more people writing in than the handful I've received. All the good will in the world doesn't help unless you take part.

Big thanx to all contributorsr to this issue, especially DIZZY DANNY REDDEN for the cover, NEAL 'CANADIAN DRY' BURTON for the INDEX cover & PAUL 'MR. DETAIL' CHOKRAN for a most visual comic strip & of course, the rest of the ARTIST POOL: LAURENCE ALISON, JON CRANE, KEN DAVIDSON, ANTONIO DE SARNO, ANDY FOXWELL, ROGER GIBSON, LORRI GOODSON, RICHARD HARRIS, PAUL HAYWARD, GARY HENDERSON, JOHN INNES, ISKANDER ISLAM, STEVE KANE, MARK MAGGOTT, SUE MASON, PETE MARTIN, TONY PLEWS, DAVE PRICE, ANDY SAUNDERS, SANDY SCHREIBER, JOHN SHORT, KEN SIMPSON, DARREN WHEELER & TRACY WILLIAMS.

DEADLINE FOR £ 22: 24th MARCH 1985

Don't forget to write &/or draw. Notify me first of any article plans.

Oh, & have a happy new year.

Be hearing from ya

Diabetically yours

Geo Lampey

6.12.84.

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SUBSCRIPTION to the X-MEN FAN CLUB entitles you to 5 issues of CEREBRO, Club offers, discounts, competitions, etc. Only Club members can see their material in print & although every effort is made to get everything in, please bear with me if there are some delays. Putting an issue of CEREBRO together is like doing an enormous jigsaw of missing pieces.
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP can be granted under certain conditions ie another member of your household wishes to join. Such membership has similar rights to a full member but does not receive CEREBRO. This does not apply to those who receive CEREBRO in trade. Query with SAE.
While every effort is made to reply, return art, articles, etc, the Club nor I cannot take any responsibility for loss, delays or damage. RETURN POSTAGE will ensure return after use, otherwise at my discretion.

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	MEMBERS	NON-MEMBERS
PAGE	£16.00	£21.00
HALF	£ 9.00	£10.50
QUARTER	£ 4.50	£ 6.50
CLASSIFIEDS	FREE	ENQUIRE

We can prepare ADs at a reasonable rate. Reductions, coloured paper &/or inks are ADDITIONAL COSTS. Delivery of leaflets, etc can be negotiated.
The X-MEN FAN CLUB reserves the right to refuse adverts which are untidy or not within the spirit or aims of the Club's activities or of a distasteful nature without prejudice.

PRINT RUN: 500 MEMBERSHIP: 270

Apologises for issue price rise but think of it this way, you are helping to cover printing costs which have gone up. In the long run, it pays to SUBSCRIBE already.

CLUB OFFERS

ALL CLUB OFFERS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY & ONLY TO CLUB MEMBERS, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, A CLUB MEMBER CAN ONLY BUY ONE ISSUE OF ANYTHING LISTED (EXCEPT FOR THOSE ON THE FLOAT, WHERE A LIMIT OF 2 CAN BE ALLOWED IF ORDERED IN ADVANCE) - SUBJECT TO AVAIL--ABILITY. THIS RULE ALLOWS EVERYONE A CHANCE AT THE CLUB STOCK & TO KEEP OUR PRICES DOWN WHERE POSSIBLE.

THIS LIST SUPERCEDES ALL PREVIOUS LISTS. THE CLUB RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE PRICES, ESPECIALLY ON THOSE MENTIONED BUT NOT YET AVAILABLE - THIS IS IN PROPORTION TO WHAT WE PAY FOR THEM (especially as the dollar/pound exchange is so fragile at present & went up again between CEREBROs!!! Me ?? Frustrated ??).

OVERSEAS MEMBERS PLEASE ENQUIRE BEFORE ORDERING & I'LL GIVE A QUOTE OF POSTAGE RATE CHARGES.

IF YOU ORDER ISSUES IN ADVANCE OF PRINTING, PLEASE BE PATIENT. WE CAN'T SEND UNTIL WE GET THEM.

PRICES ARE ABSOLUTES & HAVE NO BEARING ON DISCOUNTS.

N.B. STOCKS OF SOME ISSUES ARE LIMITED. WHERE POSSIBLE PLEASE STATE ALTERNATIVES OF (NEAR) EQUIVALENT VALUE OR INDICATING A DESIRE FOR YOUR MONEY RETURNED. THIS IS FAR MORE LIKELY TO HAPPEN THE LONGER A CEREBRO'S BEEN OUT.

WE GET COMICS ON MONTHLY IMPORT, SO ENQUIRE ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF ISSUES OF X-MEN, ALPHA FLIGHT, NEW MUTANTS, DEFENDERS & MINI/MAXI SERIES IF DESIRED BEYOND THE POINT LISTED. IF YOU WANT THEM ON A REGULAR BASIS READ FURTHER IN FOR DETAILS OF THE FLOAT.**

POSTAGE & PACKING: PLEASE READ THIS PARAGRAPH CAREFULLY!!!

Many of the comics are letter-coded for convienience...

(R) is 1 regular sized comic - ADD 30p
(D) is 1 double sized/annual comic - ADD 35p

For each additional (R) rate comic - ADD 8p
For each additional (D) rate comic - ADD 10p

To calculate, start with the item on your list which has the heaviest p&p & then use the additional rates on each item after. This may not nmcessarily be the (D) rate comic as some items have separate p&p rates.

Envelopes are sealed securely BUT tend not to be protected by cardboard (unless at my discretion) on the assumption that the postman is far more likely to roll than crease the envelope if no one answers the door.

If you don't feel happy about this, CARDBOARD can be added at 5p per piece (this pays for its postal weight not the cardboard).

If you think its going to rain ADD another 5p for polythene bag protection. For both/individually, please state with your order.

NOTE: SHOULD ANY PARCEL WE SEND ARRIVE IN A DAMAGED STATE, DO NOT OPEN FURTHER BUT GO TO YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE & FILL IN A 'P58' FORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE & CLAIM DAMAGES. PUT THE FORM IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO YOUR LOCAL POSTMASTER' OF YOUR NEAREST TOWN & PUT IT IN A POSTBOX. IT DOESN'T REQUIRE A STAMP & THE P.O. ARE REQUIRED TO LOCK INTO ANY CLAIMS PRETTY PROMINENTLY.**

ITEM: CEREBRO - AVAILABLE TO ALL! If you like the issue before you why not dabble into some of the earlier issues & burn some mid--night oil reading them. ≠ 7 - 8 contains an interview with CHRIS CLAREMONT, ≠ 18 - 19 an inter--view with LOUISE JONES. The X-INDEX started with ≠ 4, alas now sold out. What few remaining pages of INDEX remaining from issues sold out will be available to members who request them when they buy more than 3 issues. POSTAGE & PACKING: 30p added to the cover price. ADD 10p for each additional CEREBRO. CEREBRO ≠ 7,8 & 10 @ 40p; ≠ 11 & 12 @ 45p; ≠ 13 & 14 @ 50p; ≠ 15 @ 55p; ≠ 16 & 17 @ 65p; ≠ 18 - 20 @ 75p; ≠ 21 @ 85p.

ITEM: X-MEN COMIC - note, some of these issues are running out. ≠ 141(R)@ 45p; ≠ 143(R)@ £1; ≠ 144 - 145(R)@ 50p; ≠ 146 - 149 (R)@ 45p; ≠ 150(D)@ 50p; ≠ 151 (R)@ 45p; ≠ 152(R)@ 50p; ≠ 153 - 157 & 159(R)@ 45p; ≠ 160 - 164 (R)@ 50p; ≠ 166(R)@ 60p; ≠ 167 - 170 & 172 - 174(R)@ 50p; ≠ 175 (D)@ 70p; ≠ 176 - 185(R)@ 45p; ≠ 186(D)@ 75p; ≠ 187 - 192(R)@ 50p. NB. BOTH X-MEN ≠ 193 & 200 WILL BE DOUBLE-SIZED ISSUES.**
X-MEN ANNUAL ≠ 5 - 7(D)@ 70p; ≠ 8(D)@ 80p.
X-MEN SPECIAL EDITION ≠1(D) (reprints GS ≠ 1) @ £2.40.
PHOENIX - THE UNTOLD STORY (≠ 137 before it became ≠ 137 plus dialogue from CLAREMONT & BYRNE regarding the changes) (D)@ 1.35.

ITEM: NEW MUTANTS COMIC - ≠ 1(R)@ 60p; ≠ 2 & 5 - 16(R)@45p; ≠ 17 - 20(R)@ 50p; ≠ 21(D)@ 80p; ≠ 22 - 25(R)@ 50p. ANNUAL≠1(D)@80p

ITEM: ALPHA FLIGHT COMIC ≠ 1 @ 65p; ≠ 2 - 11(R)@ 45p; ≠ 12(D)@ 70p; ≠ 13 - 20(R)@ 50p.

ITEM: DEFENDERS COMIC ≠ 129 - 134(R)@ 45p; ≠ 135 - 139 (R) @ 50p.

ITEM: CROSS OVER/INDIVIDUAL APPEARANCES ELSEWHERE:
DAZZLER ≠(R)@ 50p; ≠ 2(R)@ 45p (features X-MEN)
INCREDIBLE HULK ANNUAL ≠ 8(D)@ 60p (features SASQUATCH)
MARVEL FANFARE ≠ 3(R)@ 80p (features X-MEN)
MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL ≠ 6(D)@70p (features NEW MUTANTS)
MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL ≠ 7(D)@75p (features ALPHA FLIGHT)
MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE ≠ 76(R)@ 45p (features ICEMAN)
ROM ANNUAL ≠ 12(D)@ 80p (features NEW MUTANTS)
WHAT IF PHOENIX HAD LIVED ≠27 (D)@ 55p
WHAT IF WOLVERINE HAD KILLED THE HULK ≠ 31(D)@ 65p.

ITEM: MARVEL AGE MAGAZINE - note only 1 or 2 copies of those listed available: ≠ 9, 14 - 16, 18 - 21(R)@ 45p

ITEM: MISCELLANEOUS PRICED:
BIZARRE ADVENTURES ≠ 27 @ 70p + 35p p&p (b&w - features stories of NIGHTCRAWLER, ICEMAN & PHOENIX, GULACY cover)
COMICS FEATURE ≠ 4 @ 80p + 35p p&p (features BYRNE's pencilled pages for ≠ 137. This zine is supposed to be rare - only 5 copies left with me now).
GRAPHIC NOVEL ≠ 4 @ £3.80 + 50p p&p (features NEW MUTANTS)
GRAPHIC NOVEL ≠ 5 @ £4.20 + 50p p&p (features X-MEN)
G&T X-MEN INDEX @ £4.20 + 50p p&p (self-explainatory)
COMICS JOURNAL ≠ 57 @ £2.00 + 50p p&p (features a long interview with JOHN BYRNE)
DAVE HORNSBY POSTER of X-MEN @ 40p (inc p&p) - sent in tube, poster in colour.

ITEM: MINI/MAXI SERIES:
MAGIK ≠ 1 - 4(R) @ 50p
SECRET WARS ≠ 2 - 11(R)@ 60p
X-MEN/MICRONAUTS ≠ 1 - 4(R) @ 50p
BEAUTY & BEAST ≠ 1 - 4(R)@60p (N.B. Bi-monthly with ≠ 3 & 4 not yet out).
ICEMAN ≠ 1 - 4(R)@ 60p (N.B. Bi-monthly with ≠ 3 & 4 not yet out).
KITTY & WOLVERINE ≠ 1 - 6(R) @ 60p (N.B. ≠ 5 - 6 not out yet - although monthly)
Neither the MAGNETO, NIGHT--CRAWLER or FIRESTAR MINI-SERIES have appeared on the schedule yet. Deposits for any MINI-SERIES can be arran--ged through the FLOAT system.

ITEM: FEW LEFT DEPARTMENT - First come, first served basis. LIMITED quantities so please remember alternatives with this section :
AVENGERS ANNUAL ≠ 10(D)@ 70p
CHAMPIONS ≠ 1 - 2(R)@ 60p
CONTEST OF CHAMPIONS≠1-3(R)@80p
DAREDEVIL ≠196(R)@ 45p
DAZZLER ≠ 17,19,22 & 24(R)@40p
FANTASTIC FOUR ROAST(R)@ 45p
INCREDIBLE HULK ≠ 263(R)@40p
MARVEL FANFARE ≠ 2(R)@ £1
MARVEL UNIVERSE ≠ 10 - 13(R) @ £1.00 (really limited)
POWER/FIST ≠ 56(R)@ 45p
ROM ≠ 17(R)@ 50p
X-MEN CLASSICS ≠ 3(d)@ £1.45
MARVEL UK DIGEST SERIES:
STAR HEROES ≠ 10 & 11 cont as
X-MEN DIGEST ≠ 12 - 15, 20 & 26 @ 20p + 20p p&p. ADD (R) per each extra pocketbook.

ITEM: HAND-PAINTED TEE-SHIRTS - done to your specifications in full colour. Sample Price: £5.00 (inc p&p) which is for 1 character on white medium tee-shirt. Additional characters, backgrounds & logos cost extra. Enquire & I'll quote a price. Include SAE. Money donated to Club funds. So you know what you'd be getting choose from the pages of X-M, AF or NMs & I'll match to your specifications.

Juggernaut gives Black Tom a birthday present - the crystal of Cyttorak?

©MARVEL 1984

CLUB MEMBERS PAGES

ITEM: CEREBRO TEE-SHIRTS. If you would like a monotone copy of any illustra--tion or cover that you've seen in CEREBRO on your chest, we can arrange it. No, that doesn't mean we're going to employ a tattoist. We can put the design onto a transfer (maximium size of B4 - that's 36cm x 25 cm) which is then printed on either a white or blue polyster tee-shirt. The transfer is permanent & choice of colours is black, red, blue, green or brown. Please state preference & allow 3 weeks for delivery.
Prices: 26" - 32" @£5.30
36" - above @£5.80 p&p inc.
If you want your own design done this way, please enquire. All in aid of Club funds.

ITEM: X-MEN POSTCARDS - set of 16 black & white cards each featuring a different X-MAN illustrated by Club member TIM TURNER. Members who've bought them tend not to use them, so the best way to see them is own your own set. Available only to members.
Prices: 1 set @ £1.50
2 sets @ £2.00 p&p inc.

ITEM: X-MEN CHEST PIECES/FIGURES - see AD further in. Every home should have one if only to scare the GREMLINS away.

ITEM: X-MEN FAN CLUB BADGES - yep, I've finally lashed out & we're having some done (which will be available shortly after you receive this issue).

THE X-MEN FAN CLUB

The badge will be/is in black & white with a diameter of 1¾" & was designed by TONY PLEWS combining the tradit--ional X-MEN logo & our membership card logo. If this badge is successful there will be others so please do support this venture & show the world what you belong to.
Prices: 1 badge @ 50p
2 badges @ 85p p&p inc.

ITEM: THE PACKAGES - initially began as a means to share original material I've picked up over the years & since then has kinda expanded. If you're interested in seeing how a MARVEL cover is developed before finally handed over to the cover artist or curious to see the size that an actual comic page is drawn at - then this is the cheap way to do it. Since incept--ion, several members have added some of their best work under the Club sets. This is a fund raiser for the Club - please support it, huh?? Prices inc--lude p&p.

**********COVER CONCEPTS (A4)*****
PACKAGE A : X-MEN ≠ 112, 112 alterna--tive & 115 @ 80p
PACKAGE B : IRON FIST ≠ 15, 10 & 3 @80p
PACKAGE C : X-MEN ≠ 105 - 3 alternat--ives from production @ 80p
PACKAGE D : MS. MARVEL ≠ 9 - 5 alter--native designs from production @ £1
PACKAGE E : DAREDEVIL ≠ 158, MICRON--AUTS ≠ 4 & MS. MARVEL ≠ 23 (which wasn't published) @ 80p
PACKAGE F : MARVEL TEAM-UP ≠ 64 & MTU ANNUAL ≠ 1 alternative deign @ 50p
PACKAGE G : X-MEN ≠ 103 & 121 @ 50p

INTERIOR ART PAGES(A3)
PACKAGE H : X-MEN ≠ 101 page 10 & ≠ 107 pages 10 & 27 - all @ 90p
PACKAGE I : X-MEN ≠ 118 page 7 & ≠ 128 page 10 - all @ 70p
PACKAGE J : X-MEN ANNUAL ≠ 4 pages 13 & 29 @ 70p
PACKAGE O : X-MEN ≠ 99 page 11 & ≠ 147 page 16 - all @ 70p

CLUB ART SPECIALS(A3/4)
PACKAGE K : CEREBRO ≠ 11 cover, ≠ 10 backcover & ≠ 9 cover - all @ 70p
PACKAGE L : 2 A3-poster size pictures of the X-MEN based off photos on XAVIER's desk in his study in X-MEN ≠ 117 & illustrated by our very own PETE MARTIN @ 65p
PACKAGE M : 4 A4 pictu--res of the X-DUCKS featuring the PONDWAD--DLERS & WOLVERDUCK by DANNY REDDEN @ £1
PACKAGE N : 4 A4 pict--ures of WOLVERINE & his father by DANNY REDDEN @ £1.

Any member ordering M & N together will also receive an A3 enlarge--ment of the illo on page 29a of CEREBRO ≠ 16 showing what will happen at WOLVERINE & his father's next family reunion.

Generally, PACKAGES are sent in a tube, although the smaller A4 size may be sent with comics if ordered at the same time.

ITEM: THE FLOAT : A word you've been hear--ing throughout these pages. Well, rather than wait for each CEREBRO to come out to order something, it is possible to advance order or even place a standing order for the imports so that they get sent to you as soon as I receive them. Send an SAE for a FLOAT form. Once filled in you can start with as little as £5 in your FLOAT (more obviously if the comics ordered exceed that amount). Whenever your money becomes too low you top up. Each deli--very will let you know how much is left. As an extra incentive, if you order X-MEN you pay 5p less than the import price & if you order MARVEL AGE then that will be post free with your order. This service essentially covers X-MEN, ALPHA FLIGHT, NEW MUTANTS, DEFENDERS & their relevent MINI-SERIES, MARVEL AGE, MARVEL UNIVERSE 2nd EDITION (when it comes out) & relevent merchandice.

**THIS IS THE 21st UPDATE OF CURRENT MEMBERSHIP - CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. PLEASE INFORM ME OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGE. I CAN SEND TO A TERM ADDRESS PROVIDING YOU ALSO GIVE ME THE SPECIFIED MONTHS WHICH YOU WILL BE THERE. I CAN'T BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IF YOU CHANGE ADDRESSES & DON'T TELL ME. IF YOU WANT TO ENSURE THAT I HAVE BEEN INFORMED INCLUDE AN SAE FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

THE X-MEN FAN CLUB PROMOTES FAN-TO-FAN COMMUNICATION BUT SO THAT NO MEMBER SUDDENLY GETS A DELUGE OF MAIL WHICH COULD PUT HIM/HER OUT OF POCKET SUDDENLY, IT IS TACT--FULLY SUGGESTED THAT YOU SHOULD INCLUDE AN SAE WITH CORRESPONDENCE UNTIL A MUTUAL AGREEMENT TO DO OTHERWISE IS AGREED BETWEEN YOURSELVES.**

NEW

DICK ALLDRIDGE (X-FAN ≠ 571)
FINISHING SECTION No 1 AIDU
RAF NORTHOLT WEST END ROAD
RUISLIP
MIDDLESEX HA4 6NG
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ROBERT AKEHURST (X-FAN ≠ 583)
25 SANDS ROAD
HARRISEAHEAD
STAFFORD-ON-TRENT
STAFFORDSHIRE ST7 4JZ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
D.J. DANDO (X-FAN ≠ 577)
50 GREENMEADOW TERRACE
PENRHIWFER
TONYPANDY
MID-GLAMORGAN CF40 1RJ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PHILIP EBBRELL (X-FAN ≠ 584)
FLAT 1b
38 HAMPTON PARK
REDLAND
BRISTOL B56 6LH
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
NIGEL HART (X-FAN ≠ 567)
49 MEADWAY
FREEZYWATER
ENFIELD
MIDDLESEX EN3 6NX
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
STEVEN HINION (X-FAN ≠ 581)
20 JEFFERYS DRIVE
GREASBY UPTON
WIRRAL
MERSEYSIDE L49 2NJ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ADRIAN HUDSON (X-FAN ≠ 582)
74 ORGREAVE LANE
HANDSWORTH
SHEFFIELD S13 9NF
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
SCOTT HUGHES (X-FAN ≠ 573)
18 WELLINGTON STREET
BRIGHTLINGSEA
ESSEX C)7 ODB
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
SIMON KNIBB (X-FAN ≠ 579)
BANNISTERS
PAULS CAUSEWAY
CONGRESBURY
AVON
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
CHRIS MATTHEWS (X-FAN ≠ 572)
94 GIPSY LANE
SWINDON
WILTSHIRE SN2 6DH
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PETER PHILLIPPPS(X-FAN ≠ 566)
132 ST SAVIOURS ROAD
LEICESTER LE5 3SG
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
GRAEME SARSON (X-FAN ≠ 575)
DENEND HOUSE
STRICHEN
FRASERBURGH
GRAMPIAN AB4 4KN
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ADAM SPRING (X-FAN ≠ 574)
THE GABLE HOUSE
FARINGDON ROAD
ABINGDON
OXFORDSHIRE
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
CHRIS SUMMERS (X-FAN ≠ 580)
16 TRAFALGAR DRIVE
WALTON-ON-THAMES
SURREY
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
GRAHAM TROAKE (X-FAN ≠ 568)
25 HIGH PATH
WELLINGTON
SOMERSET TA21 8NH
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
CHI WAI TSANG (X-FAN ≠ 578)
147 HERMIT ROAD
CANNING TOWN
LONDON E16 4LE
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
PETER WESTON (X-FAN ≠ 569)
17 HIGH STREET
KILLAMARSH
Nr SHEFFIELD S31 8BJ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
MARTIN WILLIAMS (X-FAN ≠ 570)
70 MANOR ROAD
WALTHAMSTOW
LONDON E17 5RZ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ROBERT WILLIAMS (X-FAN ≠ 576)
16 ST JOHN STREET
GLYNFACH
PORTH
RHONDDA
MID-GLAMORGAN CF39 9LA
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

RENEWED

GARY ORCHARD (X-FAN ≠ 117)
18 MILLBANK HOUSE
NORTHAM
SOUTHAMPTON SO1 1RZ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ROBERT NOTT (X-FAN ≠ 174)
'TANELORN'
158 PENDEEN PARC
HELSTON
CORNWALL
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
SIMON JOWETT (X-FAN ≠ 182)
105 HURST ROAD
NORTH HEATH
ERITH
KENT DA8 3EW
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
STEVE PANKHURST (X-FAN ≠ 186)
12 SHUTLOCK LANE
MOSELEY
BIRMINGHAM B13 8NZ
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
STEVE COOTE (X-FAN ≠ 198)
28 DOWNEY CLOSE
BASILDON
ESSEX
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
ALEC CHALMERS (X-FAN ≠ 207)
20 CASTLETON CRESCENT
GRANGEMOUTH
CENTRAL REGION
SCOTLAND FK3 0BG
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

ADDRESS CHANGE

BARRY HOLLAND (X-FAN ≠ 211)
27 WELLFIELD DRIVE
IGHTENHILL
BURNLEY
LANCS BB12 OHS
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
DAVID WILLIAMS (X-FAN ≠ 278)
106 QUEENS AVENUE
MAESGEIRCHEN
BANGOR
GWYNEDD
NORTH WALES
* *
ROBIN GREEN (X-FAN ≠ 408)
126 EDENBRIDGE ROAD
ENFIELD
MIDDLESEX EN1 2HU
* *
RICHARD BEARDWELL (X-FAN ≠ 409)
49 HILLARY HOUSE
TEVIOT STREET
LONDON E14 6PT
* *
SIMON WHITE (X-FAN ≠ 411)
7 BARBURGH DRIVE
PUTNOE
BEDFORD MK41 8AD
* *
BRADY CLARKE (X-FAN ≠ 416)
27 KEBLE COURT
CLINTON PARK
TATTERSHALL
LINCOLN
* *
ANDY FOXWELL (X-FAN ≠ 417)
10 KINGS ARBOUR
RINGWAY SOUTHALL
MIDDLESEX UB2 5TA
* *
MARK S-THOMPSON (X-FAN ≠ 423)
c/o SIMULATOR SQUADRON
RAF LOSSIEMOUTH
ELGIN
SCOTLAND IV3 68D
* *
ROY STEWART (X-FAN ≠ 431)
107 TULLYKITTAGH ROAD
CLOUGH
BALLYMENA
COUNTY ANTRIM
NORTHERN IRELAND BT44 9RT
* *
JOHN RANDALL (X-FAN ≠ 438)
10 MEADOW CLOSE
DOLLIS VALLEY WAY
BARNET
HERTS EN5 2UE
* *
DANNY QUINN. (X-FAN ≠ 444)
80 NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE
WELLING
KENT DA16 2PS
* *
PAUL NICHOLLS (X-FAN ≠ 446)
165 KINGSWAY
WINNESS
CHESHIRE WA8 7QW
* *
JOHN HAMMOND (X-FAN ≠ 455)
67 MENDIP ROAD
WORTHING
SUSSEX BN13 2LS
* *
DAVID GARLAND (X-FAN ≠ 470)
71 LONGSTOMPS AVENUE
CHELMSFORD
ESSEX
* *
ALAN ANDERSON (X-FAN ≠ 515)
'BURNABY'
80 POINT ROAD
DUNDALK
COUNTY LOUTH
EIRE
* *

ADRIAN SNOWDON (X-FAN ≠ 56)
3 BERWICK ROAD
BISHOP'S CLEEVE
Nr CHELTENHAM
GLOUCESTER GL52 4EP
* *
PETER POOLE (X-FAN ≠ 108)
199 GLOUCESTER PLACE
REGENT'S PARK
LONDON NW1
* *
GERALD MIDGLEY (X-FAN ≠ 152)
25 BARNMEAD ROAD
BECKENHAM
KENT
* *
MARTIN HAND (X-FAN ≠ 285)
279 ARCHWAY ROAD
HIGHGATE
LONDON N6
* *
DAVID PARDOE (X-FAN ≠ 291)
89 DUDLEY STREET
BEDFORD MK40 3S2
* *
ROGER GIBSON (X-FAN ≠ 386)
5 FOREST WAY
STOCKTON LANE
YORK
NORTH YORKSHIRE YO3 0BJ
* *
TONY KEHOE (X-FAN ≠ 513)
7 RASTELL AVENUE
STREATHAM HILL
LONDON SW2 4XP
* *
TONY PLEWS (X-FAN ≠ 539)
APARTMENT 10
JOHN HEVAN HOUSE
34 MADELEY ROAD
EALING
LONDON W5 2LS
* *
LINZI CRAWFORD (X-FAN ≠ 549)
226 OCU PHOTO
RAF LOSSIEMOUTH
MORAY
SCOTLAND
* *

RENEWAL

C'mon. Make my day & renew already, OK. Even better, keep ahead of my DEADLINE. But just renew, huh. If you can't remember you membership number, look on the envelope. There are 69 of you due this time, so there can't be that many envelopes to look through. Failing that, look at that flashing crystal on your palm.

120 166 204 205 206
208 210 212 218
222 242 251 254 255
257 260 268 269
271 272 280 282 285
288 293 301 303
313 358 427 428 429
432 436 439 440
441 442 445 447 448
458 459 460 462
463 464 465 466 467
468 469 471 473
474 475 477 478 479
480 481 482 483
484 485 487 491 505
506

So. Can you hold your breath until the nexy issue ??

Thinks: Would CLINT EASTWOOD say, 'Send the sub, punk' ??

congrats

to Club member CLIFF POOLEY & his wife, WENDY, on the birth of their son, KYLE, on 7th AUGUST 1984, weighing in at 9 lbs.

Hatchlings

No. Your eyes aren't deceiving you. This is a complete year's of BIRTHDAYS in one fellswoop, so no one can say I've missed you out on our 21st issue. Back to normal next CEREBRO.

MEMBER	X-FAN	DATE	MONTH
ROGER GIBSON	(#386)	01	JAN
SIMON JOWETT	(#182)	02	JAN
DAVE ROACH	(#170)	04	JAN
GARY HENDERSON	(#303)	05	JAN
DON BENNETT	(#337)	05	JAN
CHRIS BUTLER	(#440)	08	JAN
TOM FARNHILL	(#508)	10	JAN
CHRIS MEARS	(#516)	11	JAN
DAVE McKENNA	(#388)	13	JAN
LAURENCE ALISON	(#292)	16	JAN
TIM O'SULLIVAN	(#482)	17	JAN
LEE WORRALLO	(#167)	19	JAN
GRAHAM SIM	(#458)	19	JAN
PHILIP ANDREWS	(#475)	20	JAN
JILL THOMAS	(# 70)	22	JAN
ROBERT TROUGHT	(#436)	23	JAN
EDDIE STACHELSKI	(#205)	24	JAN
ALAN THOMAS	(#447)	25	JAN
MARTIN PAY	(#480)	25	JAN
TRACY WILLIAMS	(#511)	25	JAN
ROY McVEAN	(#381)	27	JAN
PAUL NICHOLSON	(#166)	28	JAN
JOHN DANIEL	(#494)	28	JAN
DOUG ANGEL	(#107)	30	JAN
JIM COWLES	(#251)	30	JAN
KEN ARDERN	(#260)	02	FEB
MARK RONEY	(#300)	02	FEB
GRAHAM TOAKE	(#568)	08	FEB
MATTHEW JAMES	(#467)	14	FEB
JASON BURTON(1)	(#257)	16	FEB
STEVEN SMITH	(#293)	19	FEB
MARK PENDER	(#441)	20	FEB
BRIAN MORGAN	(#367)	23	FEB
PETER WILDASH	(#428)	25	FEB
MIKE TAYLOR	(#526)	26	FEB
PAUL HESLOP	(#534)	26	FEB
ALLISTER SPENCE	(#269)	27	FEB
ALAN ANDERSON	(#515)	28	FEB
PHILIP COLLINS	(#525)	28	FEB
MARTIN FISHER	(#402)	01	MAR
MURRAY CRAIG	(#543)	02	MAR
DAVID WEST	(#562)	02	MAR
PHILL BROWNLEY	(#401)	06	MAR
NIGEL HART	(#567)	07	MAR
FRANCIS HALLIGAN	(#313)	09	MAR
SANTAY SAHNI	(#465)	11	MAR
RAY WILLIAMSON	(#115)	12	MAR
BARRY NEEDHAM	(#357)	14	MAR
GORDON FOULDS	(#103)	15	MAR
RAY BLACKMOOR	(#136)	17	MAR
STEVE MARTIN	(# 87)	18	MAR
STEVE ISLES	(#528)	19	MAR
PETER WESTON	(#569)	19	MAR
DICK ALLDRIDGE	(#571)	20	MAR
JANET DIXON	(#468)	23	MAR
ALASTAIR HERBERT	(#442)	26	MAR
SEAN ROBERTS	(#146)	30	MAR
IAIN MALLETT	(#280)	30	MAR
MICHAEL WONG	(#498)	01	APR
CHI WAI TSANG	(#578)	02	APR
MAUREEN JAMES	(# 65)	03	APR
DANNY REDDEN	(#210)	04	APR
ALEC CHALMERS	(#207)	05	APR
BRADY CLARKE	(#416)	05	APR
JAMES WOODCOCK	(#481)	06	APR
GEORGE BARBER	(#514)	07	APR
BARRY HOLLAND	(#211)	10	APR
TERRANCE CHAN	(#306)	10	APR
JOHN GATEHOUSE	(# 67)	11	APR
ADRIAN CARTER	(#483)	11	APR
ROBERT NOTT	(#174)	13	APR
JULIE BURGESS	(#538)	14	APR
JOHN RANDALL	(#438)	17	APR
JEAN ROGERS	(#507)	17	APR
AIDEN THOMAS	(#527)	18	APR
MIKE KRAUS	(#486)	19	APR
SIMON WHITE	(#411)	20	APR
MATTHEW TILLER	(#524)	20	APR
DICK DOMAR	(#138)	21	APR
PETE ARMSTRONG	(#271)	22	APR
RICHARD THOMAS	(#380)	25	APR
PHILIP STEELE	(#502)	26	APR
ADRIAN SNOWDON	(# 56)	27	APR
NEIL LEWIS	(#474)	27	APR
KEN DAVIDSON	(#332)	28	APR
NICK ALMOND	(# 54)	30	APR
MIKE CHEATER	(#490)	02	MAY
CHRIS MEARS	(#517)	02	MAY
MIKE LEWIS	(#480)	04	MAY
CHARLES FOXWELL	(#557)	04	MAY
TIM TURNER	(# 95)	06	MAY
ANTONIO DE SARNO	(#368)	06	MAY
ANTHONY DYLAK	(#358)	09	MAY
G.F.WILLMETTS	(# 51)	11	MAY
MARK S-THOMPSON	(#423)	11	MAY
DON THOMPSON	(#344)	12	MAY
NIGEL WELLINGS	(#392)	13	MAY
COLIN TOUGH	(#393)	13	MAY
GERARD KINGDON	(#155)	15	MAY
JOHN HAMMOND	(#455)	15	MAY
PETER POOLE	(#108)	17	MAY
MIKE HOLDBROOK	(#355)	19	MAY
MARTIN DOWNHAM	(#489)	27	MAY
DANNY NOQUET	(#501)	28	MAY
FRANK PLOWRIGHT	(# 53)	31	MAY
STEVE PANKHURST	(#186)	04	JUN
SANDY SCHREIBER	(#288)	04	JUN
GARY OFFORD	(#106)	05	JUN
MARION MURPHIE	(#272)	07	JUN
ANDREW PHYTHIAN	(#564)	09	JUN
IAN SCOTT	(#301)	11	JUN
ADRIAN REYNOLDS	(#396)	11	JUN
DON DALTON	(#491)	11	JUN
PETER ALTOFT	(#377)	13	JUN
STEVE SPENCE	(#432)	13	JUN
TONY KEHOE	(#513)	15	JUN
RICHARD ARMSTRONG	(282)	16	JUN
ED NOBLE	(#536)	17	JUN
STUART HEANEY	(#473)	18	JUN
IAN CLARK	(#181)	19	JUN
NOEL HANNAN	(#476)	19	JUN
PAUL QUATERMAN	(#463)	20	JUN
DEREK WALTON	(#445)	22	JUN
ADAM SPRING	(#574)	22	JUN
ANDY SAUNDERS	(#509)	26	JUN
TONY WILLIAMS	(#218)	27	JUN
JASON BURTON(2)	(#477)	27	JUN
GRAEME SARSON	(#575)	02	JUL
ANDY LITTLEFIELD	(#497)	06	JUL
DAVE GRYC	(#171)	08	JUL
PETER TAYLOR	(#485)	08	JUL
MARIO BOTTE	(#427)	09	JUL
ALAN McCLUSKY	(#550)	12	JUL
CHRIS MATTHEWS	(#572)	12	JUL
TREVOR BALE	(#216)	13	JUL
KEITH SPRATLEY	(#521)	16	JUL
ROY STEWART	(#431)	17	JUL
PAUL CORNELL	(#110)	18	JUL
JAMES GREY	(#484)	18	JUL
SUE MASON	(#519)	18	JUL
PETE MARTIN	(#309)	19	JUL
GARY THEOBALD	(#325)	19	JUL
DAVE PAINTER	(#404)	19	JUL
ANTHONY CROWTHER	(#532)	19	JUL
GARY ORCHARD	(#117)	20	JUL
JOHN SHORT	(#375)	21	JUL
GREG HILL	(#204)	22	JUL
KENNETH MILLER	(#565)	22	JUL
TIM BOLLARD	(#212)	25	JUL
SHAUN DUFFY	(#487)	25	JUL
HOWARD KENWARD	(#537)	26	JUL
STEVE WHATLEY	(# 76)	30	JUL
DOUGLAS WILSON	(#520)	30	JUL
PHILIP EMBRELL	(#584)	30	JUL
MARTIN WATSON	(#450)	31	JUL
DARREN WHEELER	(#548)	02	AUG
ROCCO PACE	(#242)	05	AUG
MIKE TEAGUE	(# 60)	10	AUG
DAVE SELLARS	(#512)	10	AUG
ROSS COWIN	(#273)	14	AUG
MIKE MITTELSTADT	(#327)	16	AUG
DAMIAN COWLAM	(#464)	17	AUG
MICHAEL ROACH	(#352)	18	AUG
ROBIN WHALE	(#104)	21	AUG
PAUL OSBORNE	(#488)	23	AUG
STEVE AGGOTT	(#208)	24	AUG
KEN SIMPSON	(#114)	27	AUG
NIGEL DOWNES	(#555)	28	AUG
NEAL BURTON	(#554)	29	AUG
SIMON KNIBB	(#579)	29	AUG
MARTIN WILLIAMS	(#570)	03	SEP
WAYNE RALPH	(#505)	04	SEP
ADRIAN LUTTON	(#545)	10	SEP
SCOTT HUGHES	(#573)	11	SEP
PAUL TRIMBLE	(#398)	12	SEP
HENRY RYDZKOWSKI	(#471)	13	SEP
DYFRUG WILLIAMS	(#160)	15	SEP
JON UNDERWOOD	(#522)	20	SEP
RICHARD HARRIS	(# 92)	23	SEP
MARK HEATH	(#255)	23	SEP
MARTIN DRURY	(#154)	24	SEP
MARTIN HAND	(#285)	25	SEP
ISKANDER ISLAM	(#466)	25	SEP
DAVE GARLAND	(#470)	26	SEP
CAROL LIVINGSTONE	(#90)	04	OCT

RAJ DANDIA	(#561)	04-OCT
SIMON ENTWISTLE	(#563)	04-OCT
FAREN SHORT	(#130)	10-OCT
CHARLES FLETCHER	(#195)	10-OCT
ANDREW BERMAN	(#542)	11-OCT
DAMIAN WHITE	(#334)	12-OCT
TERRY WEBSTER	(#469)	13-OCT
JULIUS BREEN	(#496)	13-OCT
STEVE KANE	(#137)	14-OCT
LORRAINE GOODISON	(371)	15-OCT
NEIL SWAIN	(#503)	15-OCT
PHIL HUNT	(#552)	16-OCT
STEVEN LANG	(#222)	18-OCT
SEAN JOYCE	(#345)	18-OCT
STEWART ALLWOOD	(#547)	21-OCT
MARCO FEDERICI	(#339)	27-OCT
ADRIAN HUDSON	(#582)	29-OCT
ROY MURPHY	(#448)	02-NOV
PETER RUBINSTEIN	(#544)	02-NOV
RICHARD BEARDWELL	(409)	03-NOV
DEBBIE GILBERT	(#492)	03-NOV
MARK MAGGOTT	(#169)	04-NOV
TIM FIELD	(#506)	04-NOV
ROBERT AKEHURST	(#583)	06-NOV
MARTIN JACKSON	(#397)	07-NOV
DAVID WILLIAMS	(#278)	09-NOV
CLIFF POOLEY	(#472)	11-NOV
MIKE MARKS	(#541)	13-NOV
PETER FRENCH	(#333)	17-NOV
ROBIN GREEN	(#408)	21-NOV
PETER PHILLIPPS	(#566)	21-NOV
MATTHEW BOND	(#560)	22-NOV
LINZI CRAWFORD	(#549)	24-NOV
DANIEL NOQUET	(#501)	28-NOV
STEVE HINTON	(#581)	29-NOV
DANNY QUINN	(#444)	01-DEC
FIONA JEROME	(#376)	02-DEC
DAVE BEZZINA	(#403)	04-DEC
GUY CHALKLEY	(#504)	04-DEC
DAVE PRICE	(#120)	06-DEC
JOHN INNES	(#535)	07-DEC
PAUL NICHOLLS	(#446)	08-DEC
CHRIS SUMMERS	(#580)	10-DEC
PAUL CHOKRAN	(#254)	15-DEC
PAUL WEST	(#206)	16-DEC
NICK DUFFELL	(#462)	16-DEC
RAI DAVIES	(#429)	18-DEC
MARTIN DONOVAN	(#553)	19-DEC
MATT BINDER	(#111)	21-DEC
PAUL SCAIFE	(#439)	21-DEC
GERALD MIDGLEY	(#152)	23-DEC
ANDREW FOXWELL	(#417)	23-DEC
STEVE COOTE	(#198)	25-DEC
DAVID HAY	(#523)	27-DEC
KINGLEY LOH	(#531)	27-DEC
ADRIAN WAKE	(#304)	29-DEC
JOHN BALLARD	(#499)	29-DEC
DAVID PARDOE	(#291)	30-DEC
PAUL HAYWARD	(#518)	30-DEC
LAURA HOLLAND	(#468)	31-DEC

If I've missed anyone, its only because I don't have your birthdate.

appeal

We have 3 prosposals for the APPEAL:-

1. Raise money to pay for the training of a guide dog - STEVE MARTIN (who goes along with my suggestion.
2. R.S.P.C.A. or DIABETIC RESEARCH - ANDY BERMAN (if you're going for this option specify which as (a) or (b).
3. WILDLIFE IN DANGER - BARRY HOLLAND.

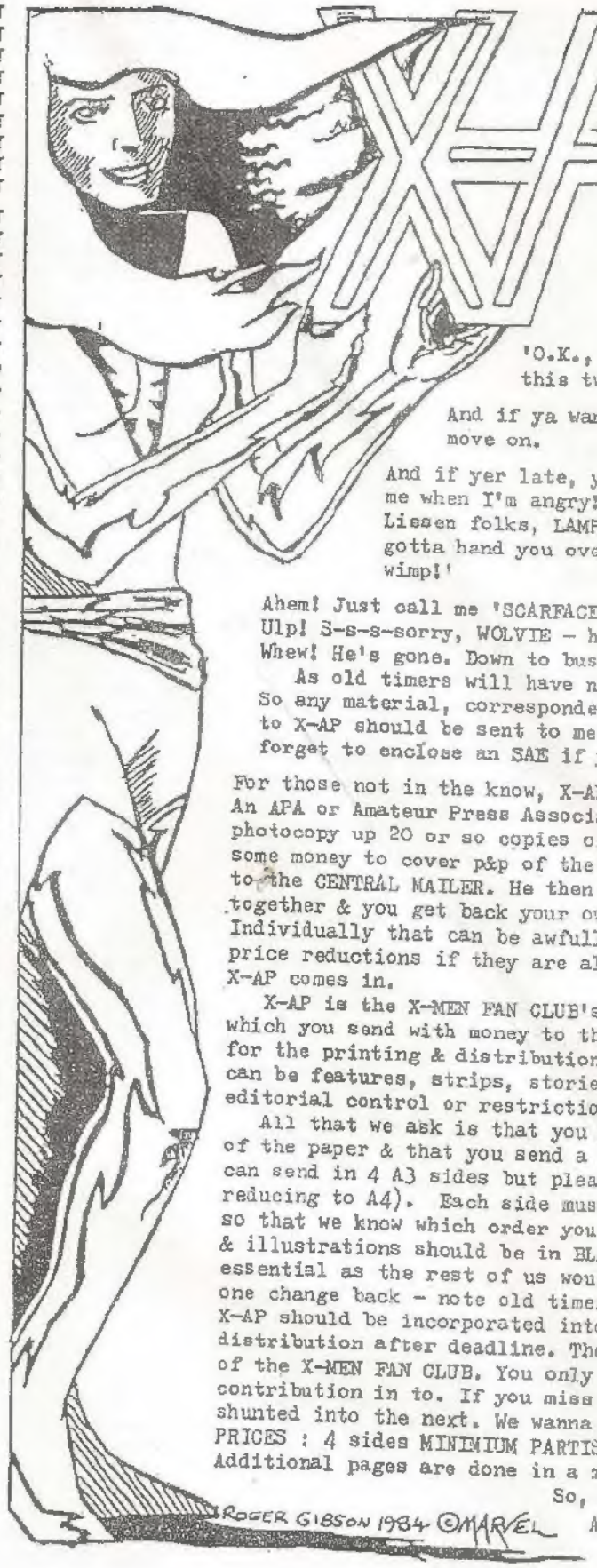
I do have to say one thing if CHOICE ONE is selected. The training of a GUIDE DOG isn't cheap - somewhere in the region of £1500 - & will take more than USED STAMPS to pay for the bill. Marathon runners STEVE WHATLEY & MIKE TEAGUE are quite willing to be sponsored in aid of this option however & if we can draw on the full support of the membership in this & other ventures then there is an outside chance we could do this goal.

Now, I'm not trying to force the option choice on you as all of this has to be voted upon. I would however like all your voted in by 4th FEBRUARY 1985 at the latest.

If OPTION ONE is decided upon & you do have money raising schemes then they must be clear--ed through me before commence--ment - NO exceptions.

In the meantime, still send in those USED STAMPS (remember to leave a bit of the envelope around the stamps) - as every one helps.

Those we collected last time only produced just over £30 so the more support you can all give the better.



'O.K., bub. Now lissen up. Cus I ain't gonna say this twice.

X-AP # 10 is comin' out soon!

And if ya wanna get in on the act, ya better get a move on.

The DEADLINE is : 31st JANUARY 1985

And if yer late, ya might get me angry. An' you won't like me when I'm angry! What's that, WILLMETTS ?? Ya don't say. Lissen folks, LAMPOST MAN or whatever his name is sez I gotta hand you over ta that wimp GIBSON. So, take it away, wimp!'

Ahem! Just call me 'SCARFACE'. Somebody get rid of the short guy, huh?? Ulp! S-s-s-sorry, WOLVIE - hehe - uhhh. Nice weather, ay ?? hehehe Whew! He's gone. Down to business.

As old timers will have noticed, I'm now your NEW CENTRAL MAILER. So any material, correspondence, quibble, threats, money, etc, related to X-AP should be sent to me at the above address. And please don't forget to enclose an SAE if you want a reply, cos I'm not ROTHSCHILD.

For those not in the know, X-AP is a variation on the APA theme. An APA or Amateur Press Association is basically where 20 or so people photocopy up 20 or so copies of their contribution which, together with some money to cover p&p of the parcel which will come back, is then sent to the CENTRAL MAILER. He then sorts them all out & staples them all together & you get back your own plus 19 or so other people's contributions. Individually that can be awfully expensive. However, there can be big price reductions if they are all copied at the same time. This is where X-AP comes in.

X-AP is the X-MEN FAN CLUB's own APA. You prepare your own MASTER COPY which you send with money to the CENTRAL MAILER who then is responsible for the printing & distribution of the final copies. Your contribution can be features, strips, stories, opinions, etc with absolutely no editorial control or restriction.

All that we ask is that you keep a 1.5 mm distance from all 4 edges of the paper & that you send a minimium contribution of 4 A4 sides (you can send in 4 A3 sides but please ADD 10p per side to cover cost of reducing to A4). Each side must be on a separate piece of paper & numbered so that we know which order you want them in. All writing (made eligable) & illustrations should be in BLACK. Fresh BLACK typewriter ribbons are essential as the rest of us would like to read the final copy. We have one change back - note old timers - ALL MAILING COMMENTS on the previous X-AP should be incorporated into your contribution as this will speed up distribution after deadline. There is no wait list & is open to any member of the X-MEN FAN CLUB. You only receive a copy of the X-AP you get a contribution in to. If you miss the DEADLINE your contribution will be shunted into the next. We wanna stay on schedule this time, folks.

PRICES : 4 sides MINIMIUM PARTISCIPATION is £2.40 plus £1.50 for p&p. Additional pages are done in a minimium of 2's at £1.20 per 2 sides.

So, what you waiting for ?? Encouragement ?? Any problems, drop me a line & SAE. Thanks.

AUCTION

to boost Club funds. If you want to take part write down the issue you are bidding for on a piece of paper & how much you are prepared to pay for it. Seal it in an envelope marked with your name, address & X-FAN number. Send this to me in another envelope. Whoever has bidded the most by the deadline 11th FEBRUARY 1985 will then be notified & given a fortnight to send in the money. Failure to do so will then give the opportunity to the next highest bidder. Any member failing to follow these instructions will have their bid ignored. My, that is me LAMPREY, word is final in all matters of the auction. For regular corresponders, you can slip letters into the envelope addressed to me but not in the BID ENVELOPE.

So, what's available:-

1. WOLVERINE # 1 autographed by FRANK MILLER
2. X-MEN # 117 autographed by CHRIS CLAREMONT
3. X-MEN # 25 - not autog--raphed by anyone but donated by Club member MARTIN DOWNHAM. This issue is in excellent condition.
4. WHAT IF # 27 autographed by FRANK MILLER (he did do the cover afterall).

Any last detail ?? Well any member can bid for any or all listed, but indidually not as a block (ie not a sum for all 4) bid. Over to you. LAMPREY'84

THE UNCANNY X-MEN™ CHESS SET

OBTAINABLE ONLY TO MEMBERS OF THE X-MEN FAN CLUB THROUGH THE EDITORIAL ADDRESS

Each chess piece is individually made & even if you don't play chess they can be used for FRPG or they make delightful ornaments in your lounge or bedroom. Each model is between 6 to 8 inches high & made of a mixture of resin & fibre-glass. They are painted, if required, in enamels.

MANUFACTURING COSTS ARE LIKELY TO RISE SO BUY BEFORE THEY DO!

FIGURE	POSITION	UNPAINTED	PAINTED
NIGHTCRAWLER	KNIGHT	£2.80	£4.80
WOLVERINE (OLD COSTUME)	KNIGHT	£2.80	£4.80
CYCLOPS	ROOK	£3.30	£5.30
MAGNETO	KING	£3.30	£5.30
BEAST	BISHOP	£3.30	£5.30
MYSTIQUE	QUEEN	£2.80	£4.80
PYRO	BISHOP	£3.80	£5.80
AVALANCHE	ROOK	£3.80	£3.80
STORM (OLD COSTUME)	QUEEN	£3.30	£5.30
SENTINEL	PAWN	£2.40	£4.40
JAMIE MADROX	PAWN	£2.40	£4.40
COLOSSUS	ROOK	£4.20	£6.20
PROFESSOR XAVIER(IN WHEELCHAIR)	KING	£3.90	£5.90
ROGUE	BISHOP	£3.30	£5.30
MASTERMIND	KNIGHT	£3.30	£5.30
ARIEL & MASTERMIND	BISHOP	£4.10	£6.10
DESTINY	KNIGHT	£3.59	£5.50

8 UNPAINTED PAWNS (either SENTINEL or MADROX) will cost you £16.00 + £2.50 p&p.

POSTAGE & PACKING ON PIECES & PAWNS ARE GENERALLY 50p EXTRA PER ITEM.
ALLOW AT LEAST 28 DAYS FOR DELIVERY OF ORDER - although apologies in advance if we're a little late.

PHOTOGRAPHS are available on request. Send an SAE (15cm x 15cm size) if interested.
It is within your interest & that of other members that you return these promptly please.

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24 FAN & CREATIVE-ZINES THIS TIME. THOSE UNDERLINED HAVE BEEN SENDING USED-STAMPS TO THE APPEAL. SUPPORT ANY THAT TAKE YOUR FANCY, LETS KEEP AMATEUR MAGS ALIVE IN THIS COUNTRY.

THE ACOLYTE ≠ 58 from Club member PETE TAMLYN, 2 POPLAR ROAD, THE COPPICE, AYLESBURY, BUCKS HP22 5HN. 36 A4 pages. Price: 60p (??). The last issue since PETE now writes for IMAGINE (see the current DECEMBER issues of that where he covers the MARVEL RPG) but still full of the stuff RPG-lovers want. LAMPREY.

THE ALTERNATIVE HEADMASTER'S BULLETIN ≠ 5 from Club member GERALD MIDGLEY, HOLLY HOUSE, 4 LAMBOLLE ROAD, HELSIZE PARK, LONDON NW3. 28 A4 pages. Price: 70p (inc p&p). High quality magazine using glossy cover & heavy stock paper featuring contributions from top alternative strippers. This is simply a good looking comic which unfortunat--ely may be the last issue unless GERALD can get someone to take over the editorial reins. RCOWIN'84

AURA ≠ 2 from Club member DAVE PRICE, 20 AERON PLACE, GILFACH, BARGOED, MID-GLAMORGAN, CF8 8JA. 40 A5 pages. Price: 70p (inc p&p). With this issue the act is definitely tidied up & although mystical themes are still to the fore, there is a smattering of other features & a strip (insert) to whet the appetite. Its a friendly zine & well worth watching. LAMPREY'84

CYGNUS ALPHA ≠ 12 from Club member PAUL WEST, 2: NORWICH ROAD, EXWICK, EXETER, DEVON EX4 2DN. 72 A5 pages. Price:£1.50 (inc p&p) ??. Yet another last issue, although if you excuse the pun, the swansong goes out with a bang. This issue will keep you reading for a couple of hours at least, centred principally around DR WHO related subjects. LAMPREY

COMICSWORLD WINTER SPECIAL from WEZ TUMULKA, 14 SHEERSTOCK, HADDENHAM, Nr. AYLESBURY, BUCKS HP17 8EN. 44 A5 pages. Price: 50p. One redeeming feature my critics may find is that I get cut to bits in one cartoon (figuratively), but then, in the same series so do BATMAN & ALAN MOORE also get the knife firmly twisted - so I'm not in bad company. This issue's purpose is to publicise the regular title. It has a balance of fannish articles with a balance of fannish art. Very grassroots. RCOWIN'84

THE EARLY BRICKMAN from LEW STRINGER, 11 MIDDLEMARCH ROAD, HILL TOP, NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE CV10 7BS. 28 A5 pages. Price: 50p + 20p p&p. This is a reprint of the first BRICKMAN strips that appe--ared in other mags plus the same amount of new material as follow-ups to the last 2 BRICKMAN zines. This is good, especially if you follow LEW's work.RC.

ENERGY ≠ 2 from HOWARD STANGROOM, 10 GENEVA DRIVE, REDCAR, CLEVELAND TS10 1JP. 20 A5 pages. Price: 40p + 20p p&p. Basically a sampler of what you can expect in B-APA. Although skimpier than ≠ 1, with fewer contributors, it is held together with a strip by EDDIE CAMPBELL which you may want to check out for that alone. LAMPREY84

FANTASY ADVERTISER ≠ 88 from publisher MARTIN LOCK, 3 MARLOW COURT,BRITANNIA SQUARE, WORCESTER WR1 3DP. 56 A4 pages. Price: 50p + 30p p&p. Anyone who reads comics tends to pick up on FA, & if you haven't done so by now, its time to try a copy. Covers all the current comics news & reviews, together with loads of ads & a few features & letters column. Of note is how NEMESIS is transformed from UK format to US format. LAMPREY84

FANZINE FANATIQUE from KEITH WALKER, 6 VINE STREET, GREAVES, LANCASTER LANCS LA1 4UF. 9 A4 pages. Price: In trade, LoC or SAE. Basically reviews SF, comic & any other zines which comes into his possession, although this time there are features on the various fanzines around & the categories they fall in & the problems BSFA have fallen in in the past. Presentation could be so much better but at least its gone away from stencil & can now be read. L

HELLFIRE ≠ 1 from Club member DAVE ROACH 36 LAKESIDE DRIVE, LAKESIDE, CARDIFF CF2 6DF. 28 A4 pages. Price: 60p + 30p p&p. A blend of strips, features & an interview with ALAN MOORE & GARY LEACH - which explores the creative process behind developing a strip. The 2 strips although using different generas tend to have similar themes, although both are promising. Certainly worth a couple of hours reading, so buy already. LAMP

MORLUG ≠ 3 from STEVE LINES, 28 CHUR--CHILL CLOSE, CALNE, WILTSHIRE SN11 8EN. 20 A5 pages. Price: 50p ??. Basically a TOLKIEN/fantasy zine. Very light in features, although a rather large zine review column tends to tell you what else is available in this field. This is apparently a last issue so that it can be reincarnated into a new title called 'THE CREEPY CRAWLIES'. LAMPREY

MYRA ≠ 4 from MYRA HANCOCK, c/o FAST FICTION, 156 MUNSTER ROAD, LONDON SW6. 16 A5 pages. Price: 50p. MYRA does rather brilliant comics - sort of like a female EDDIE CAMPBELL. There are 4 varying strips, drawn in an honest style & well written. There are no punches drawn in its situations butis essentially charming & should be tried. RC

THE NIGHTCLOCK & OTHER STORIES from ROB SHARP, 7 CHELTENHAM ROAD, CHORLTON, MANCHESTER M21 1GL. A4 card folder with various & many loose A4 & A5 pag pages. Price: 45p (inc p&p). A one-off but the first Pak-mag, consisting of strips including NIGHTCLOCK itself, reprinting the first part from GEN & with the NEW 2nd part. It would be a crime to miss it. RCOWIN84

ORION'S APPROACH ≠ 1 from Club member DAVE GRYC, 17 SHAKESPEARE ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE, KENT ME10 3AB. 44 A4 pages. Price: £1.20 (inc p&p). This is a BLAKE 7 zine consisting of fiction with a little poetry. DAVE has a unique sense of humour which you either lurve or hate. To be truthful, I quite enjoyed it. The only black cloud is the price, although I am reliably informed that this is cheap for most BLAKEzines. RCOWIN84

PANDORA'S BOX from HOWARD STANGROOM, see ENERGY review for address. 20 A4 pages. Price: 50p + 20p p&p. This is a collection of all the PANDORA strips that have been appearing in other zines. If you've seen any of them then you'll know this is worth getting in a complete set. The artwork is top rate & each highly amusing. LAMPREY84

REVERIE ≠ 4 through British agent DAVE GRYC, see ORION'S APPROACH for his address. 36 A4 pages. Price: 50p + 20p p&p. An Australian stripzine with pro standards. If you're into stripzines then this is worth the effort as it has a variety of strips that should appeal to most of you out there. LAMP84

SCAN ≠ 36 from JOHN FREEMAN, 126a GREAVES ROAD, LANCASTER LA1 4UW. 16 A4 pages. Price: 30p + 20p p&p. This never takes itself seriously & is full of humour & has been shown in the last issue of MWOM. RC.

SHADOWS ≠ 7 from PETE HOWARD, 18 ANDERSON CRESCENT, GRWAT BARR, BIRMINGHAM B43 7SU. 32 A5 pages. Price: 50p inc p&p. This is shaping up into a really handy article-zine, after dismal past attempts,with various intelligent articles & features & strips.R C

SHOKWAVE ≠ 2 from JOHN SHORT, 20 GRANTS AVENUE, BOURNEMOUTH BH1 4NR. 24 A4 pages. Price: 66p inc p&p. Another stripzine - all different artists & writers but looking very similar in the finished product. Different is the best way to describe the strips. None are great but they're well done in the ideas department even if the words & pictures sometimes don't come up to their creator's expectations. RCOWIN84

SPEAKEASY (latest issue) from RICHARD ASHFORD, 245a COLDHARBOUR LANE, BRIXTON, LONDON SW8 8RR. 28 B4 pages. Price: 50p A newszine of the very best quality predom--inatantly often containg at least one decent scoop on its competitors. Always interesting, occasionally exceptional & informal most of the time. RCOWIN84

SUN THUNDER ≠ 1 from WARREN ELLIS, 11 CEDAR HALL GARDENS, THUNDERSLEY, BENFLEET, ESSEX SS7 3RS. 28 A5 pages. Price: 50p inc p&p. Articlezine with the usual plethora of strips & reviews thrown in as well. This could turn out to be another success story like INFINITY so get in on the ground floor.

SUPER ADVENTURE STORIES ≠ 7 from Club member CARL BATEMAN, 85 FIRST AVENUE, KIDSGROVE, STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE ST7 1DW. 20 A4 pages. Price: 50p + 20p p&p(sub£2.00 for 4 issues). This is a second printing as everyone from editor to readers alike didn't like the first. This 2nd printing has also additional contents. Worth a look--see for the cheap back issue offer. RCOWIN

SUPERCOOK ≠ 2 from MICHAEL COOK, 11 WINDMILL AVENUE, WOKINGHAM, BERKSHIRE RG11 2XA. 16 A5 pages. Price: 30p + 20p p&p. Greatly entertaining strips - good fun & very simple. MICHAEL understands how to draw comics even in this more cartoony style. RCOWIN84

TRASHCAN ≠ 1 from FRANK MARTIN & JOHN BAGNALL, 33 WINDSOR ROAD, HYLTON, MERSEYSIDE L36 4NQ. 12 A5 pages. Price: 15p + 20p p&p. Strange, but for 15p what do you expect: BARRY SMITH?? When BATMAN wakes up of a morning, what's the first thing he reaches for ? Why Bat--muesli, of course. RCOWIN84

WEIRD SCENES ≠ 3 from Club member ALEC CHALMERS, 20 CASTLETON CRESCENT, GRANGEMOUTH, CENTRAL REGION, SCOTLAND FK3 0BG. 40 A4 pages. Price: 50p inc p&p. Probably the best value for money stripzine. It is a matter of opinion if its worth the strips. I think it is. WS isn't the greatest, but is improving. An excellent forum if you want to contribute strips & ALEC always looks at submissions. RC

**COMPRESSION LEAVES A LITTLE SPACE AT THE BOTTOM SO A LITTLE PLUG FOR AN UPCOMING APA. 'DISPATCH CIRCULAR' is an APA coming from the hands of Club member NEAL BURTON, 59 LLOYD DRIVE, GREASBY, WIRRAL, MERSEYSIDE L49 1RQ. ≠ 1 has already come out NEAL could do with at least 11 more people ready to partiscipate. Send an SAE for details & also ask about the DISPATCH regular zine.

CEREBRO SCOPE

News Updata

This last year I've been receiving press release info from TITAN & in AUGUST, from MARVEL STATESIDE (& even one from MARVEL U.K. regarding their home-produced SPIDER-MAN strip). Thanks you guys, I think someone is trying to tell me that we've made it.

The problem with any news column is that it can either date pretty quickly or that you might have read it in FANTASY ADVERT--ISER or SPEAKEASY. Although obviously this column will concern itself around the mutant subjects that we all thrive on, any other tit-bits that I think deserves a looksee out of the info I'm given will get some. If any of you Club members want me to approach any of the other comic companies for news releases let me know (only MARVEL STATESIDE & TITAN sent theirs without any prompting) & I'll look into the matter. I'm still not sure how the cover repros & interior page will come out like, so bear with me over teething troubles.

Lets start with MARVEL then.

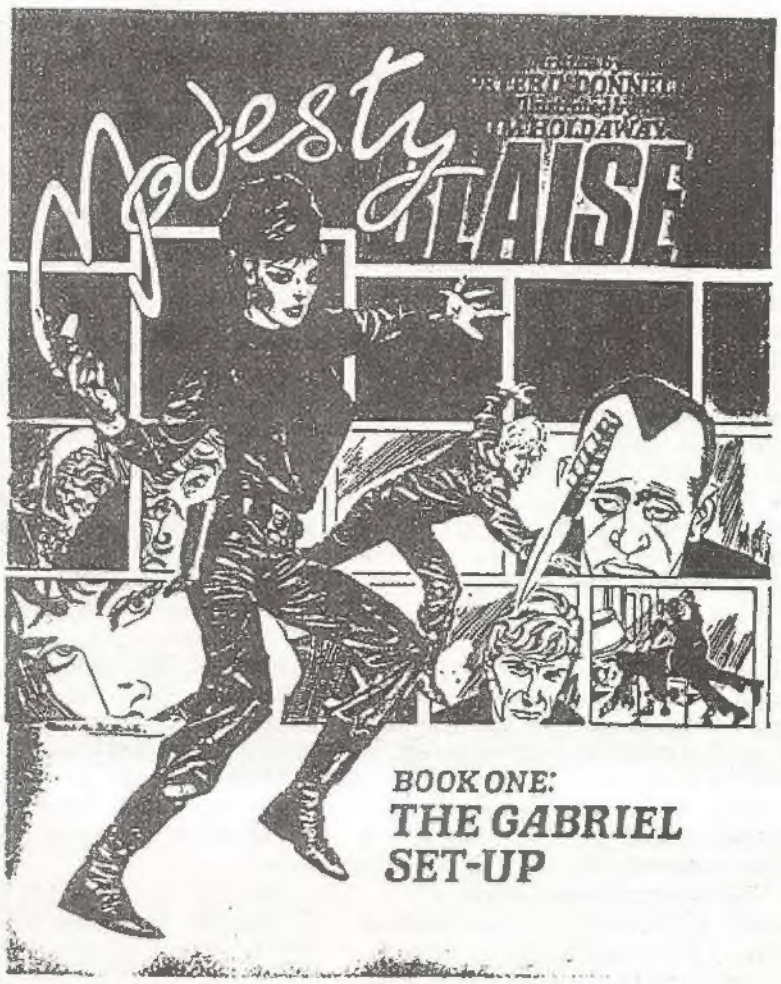
To coincide with the Christmas premieres, MARVEL have adapted both DUNE & 2010 into comic form. Anyone who doesn't know that the DUNE film is based off the novel by FRANK HERBERT hasn't been paying attention to the popular press or into SF. The adap--tion is written by RALPH MACCHIO & illustrated by BILL SIENKIE--WCZ. I've seen a couple pages of this & SIENKIEWICZ is using a far tighter style than you've been seeing in the NEW MUTANTS & definitely worth having a look at. It'll be appearing in a 64 page MARVEL SUPER-SPECIAL, followed up in a cheaper 3-issue MARVEL LIMITED SERIES. 2010, however, will only be 48 pages long in its SUPER-SPECIAL - artist/writer credits to your left. I'll let you judge from the page repro - followed by a 2-issue M-S. GROO THE WANDERER is now in the EPIC line to allow creator SERGIO ARAGONES a wider audiance than was possible with PACIFIC (& since that company has practically stopped producing comics, also a wise decision).

Anyone into'kiddie-orientated' comics will probably know that MARVEL have another division called 'STAR COMICS' now catering for them with such titles as PLANET TERRY, WALLY THE WIZARD, TOP DOG, HEATHCLIFF, STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE, FRAGGLE ROCK, ROYAL ROY, THE GETALONG GANG, THE EWOKS & THE MUPPET BABIES - can't see them getting distributed here unless its on import.

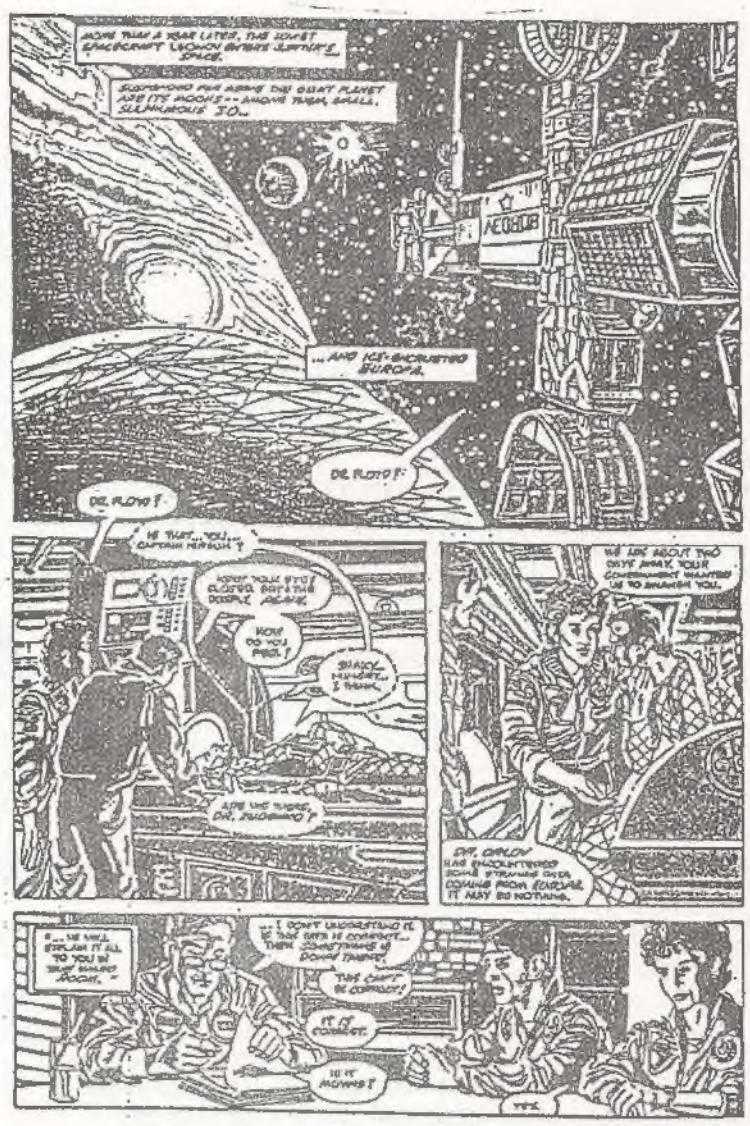
EPIC's TIMESPIRITS (written by STEVE PERRY & drawn by TOM YATES) certainly ain't super-hero fare but is beautifully crafted for those who want a comic out of the ordinary with a couple of indians temporally all over the place.

FRANK MILLER is writing, drawing & inking a 64-page GRAPHIC NOVEL called 'ELEKTRA: ACT OF LOVE' which will explain what happened since DAREDEVIL (which he is also writing 2 issues: # 219 & 220 pencilled/inked by BILL SIENKIEWICZ). DD won't appear in costume although BULLSEYE will have a pivotal role. The DD issues will resolve the KINGPIN/VANESSA storyline - something MILLER has been wanting to do & DENNY O'NEIL has let him do as a fill-in.

MARVEL are returning all their original artwork to its creators, going right back to the 60s & 70s.



(c) 1984 - EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS/KEN PIERCE. Despite delays this 96-page book from TITAN retailing at £3.95 should be in print in FEBRUARY. Since CLAREMONT paid certain hommage & parallel between MODESTY BLAISE & STORM (not to mention he's a fan himself) I thought it deserves a plug.


MORE THAN A YEAR LATER, THE SOVIET SPACECRAFT LEONOV ORBITS JUPITER'S SPACE.
SUDDENLY FAR ABOVE THE GIANT PLANET APPEARS ITS MOONS--AMONG THEM, SMALL, LUMINOUS IO...
...AND ICE-ENCRUSTED EUROPA.
DR. FLOYD?
DR. FLOYD!
IS THAT...YOU, CAPTAIN HEYWOOD?
NOW DO YOU FEEL?
BISHOP, MAINTAIN A TRANS...
ARE YOU THERE, DR. JAKUNIN?
WE ARE ABOUT TWO DAYS AWAY. YOUR GOVERNMENT WANTED US TO ABANDON YOU.
EXT. LEONOV
...I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. IF THAT DATA IS CORRECT--THEN SOMETHING IS DOING THAT!
THAT CAN'T BE CORRECT!
IT IS CORRECT.
IS IT MOVING?

For those who first saw ROCKET RACCOON in INCREDIBLE HULK will, if you're into cute animals, be able to pick up a 4 part MINI SERIES next year featuring him, written by BILL MANTLO, pencilled by MIKE MIGNOLA & inked by AL GORDON.

CLOAK & DAGGER get a regular bi-monthly series in early FEBRUARY written by BILL MANTLO with art by RICK LEONARDI & TERRY AUSTIN. Anyone who bought the M-S knows that it can only be good & the 2 pages I've seen so far are yummy.

There's also a 12-part limited series of the ETERNALS in the spring, written by PETER GILLIS & drawn by SAL BUSCEMA & AL GORDON. As has been recently been shown with BUSCEMA's work, when he's given a decent inker he can be very palatable (witness AKIN & GARVEY with him on ROM).

SECRET WARS # 12 is a double-sized issue. SECRET WARS II begins a 9-issue limited series in the spring, which will again link into various titles, specifically NEW MUTANTS # 30, CAPTAIN AMERICA # 196 & IRON MAN # 197. Written by SHOOTER & drawn by SAL BUSCEMA & STEVE LEIALOHA & concerns the BEYONDER thirsting to experience human emotions for himself. I keep seeing shades of MICHAEL/KORVAC myself. Apparently it was 'enthusiastic' mail & sales which prompted the sequal (so if you didn't like it yourself, you should have spoken up about it to MARVEL, shouldn't you).

NEW MUTANTS # 25 - 26 introduces XAVIER's son code-named 'LEGION' - who has more of a multi-personality problem than our other dual-personality favourite ROGUE.

ICEMAN M-S # 3 guest stars the DEFENDERS, CHAMPIONS & the ORIGINAL X-MEN.

ALPHA FLIGHT # 21 guest stars DR. STRANGE & introduces a new villainess called GILDED LADY.

ROM # 65 guest stars the X-MEN, AVENGERS & DEFENDERS.

X-MEN # 192 introduces the MAGUN, WARLOCK's daddy.

The first of the MARVEL own INDEXes has started, the first 6 issue index covers SPIDER-MAN at 1 dollar an issue.

The AVENGERS have lost their special government privilages after a recent shutdown in the NORAD computer systtem traced to NEW YORK. This involves no longer being able to take off in their QUINN JETS from MANHATTAN & have to go to the air--port instead (the FF are also likely to be affected) & access to State Department computer facilities. Its not so much cutting the AVENGERS status as opposed to reminding them who they are answerable to, especially with activities involving federal security systems & regulations.

Apparently, there is a new X-MEN comic called 'THE X-FACTOR' where the 4 original X-MEN get together to do what they think the X-MEN should be doing - more details next CEREBRO (& thanx to SCOOP SANDY SCHREIBER for the extra info).

MARVEL are raising cover prices by 5 cents for JANUARY on-sale comics, although mini-series will stay the same.

The latest NATIONAL LAMPOON (although probably hasn't been distributed in this country yet) has an X-MEN parody called the 'X-WOMEN'. That's it for this time. LAMPREY'84

(c) 1984 MGM/UA ENTERTAINMENT Co. All rights reserved.
art by JOE BARNEY, JOE D'ESPOSITO, LARRY HAMA & TOM PALMER, written by J.M. DeMATTEIS. '2010' will first appear in MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL # 37

OUTING' 84

When we arrived in SOHO SQUARE, I was a bit sleepy & the blonde bombshell was scared of MR. D. PRICE. A crowd of approximately 12 little muties (except for PETER POOLE - & MARY - who can only be described as a big mutie & DAVE 'JOSE' ROACH who is a bit of a big lad on the quiet & GERARD who hadn't arrived yet...) But I digress. In any case, we said our helloes to all & sundry & got them to sign in. The Welsh contingent were there in some force, as was STEVE WHATLEY. To amuse us during the wait, DAVE PRICE chased women calling out all the time, 'You wouldn't happen to be JILL THOMAS would you ??'

The crowd continued to gather until about 10 to 11, whereupon the femme fatale espouted, 'Does anyone want to go to VINTAGE ??' ie the VINTAGE COMIC & FILM SHOP. Her enquiry met with a resounding 'No!' from the vast assemblage. TONY KEHOE & MIKE CHEATER both said it was boring the last time they were there. It was at that time of day then that the visit to VINTAGE was struck off the schedule for that day. And mayhap, dear friends, for all time ? Only the man in black called Fate knows for sure, I fear, & he's not telling!

While me & ANDY LITTLEFIELD (who had dyed his hair blonde for the occasion) waited for stragglers, Cosmic-spacevixen led the merry band off to COMIC SHOWCASE... & stereophonic STEVE WHATLEY into a bollard. Cursing & muttering he then did his best to become the first road casualty of the day - cheers from the audiance - but dismally failed - boos from the audiance. Only kidding, STEVE (I'll never trust the GPO again. Allow--ing good drivers in their vans indeed!) - I loves you really. It may be obvious to the more seasoned X-FANS among you at this moment in time MISTER WHATLEY (the longest standing member at the OUTING that day -nobody offered him a seat) was leaping out in the middle of the road as a sort of live-action tribute to LAMPREY, was wasn't actually here. (**& IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO PRINT ALL THE SOPPY SENTIMENT THAT I WAS MISSED, THINK AGAIN.**) I'm equally sure that everyone wishes that MIKE TEAGUE had shown up this year too, since then they wouldn't have to suffer me. I digress.

Anyway, after STEVE's little mishaps, we broke all the li'l muties in as far as traffic dodging was concerned & took them into the best comicshop in the world, COMIC CHOWCASE - half the group at a time so as not to break the floor. You can tell PAUL HUDSON is a good guy because he stocks CEREBRO....so shove that up your beards, doubting Thomases! With many X-MEN & X-related purchases the group tripped merrily to FORBIDDEN PLANET (not via the graveyard cos all X-FANS eat quiche). There, they were accosted by SUE 'DIRTY--BOOKS' MASON. By this time, DASHING DANNY REDDEN, perennially late, had showed up. 'Come & 'ave a look at this', invited SUE, pointing to the dark end of the PLANET. Both MASON & REDDEN were obscured for many moments but we won't ask what they were doing.

At this time in the lovely proceedings, me & A.L. gave up waiting for late-comers & decided to rejoin the dudes in the PLANET (via a visit to the pub). It might be prudent to point out that TONY WILLIAMS & MIKE CHEATER had just left to go down the pub themselves. If we'd had known that, we would have joined them. Or at least, I would have...I can't speak for my blond Polish buddy & he isn't here to ask. Anyway, the Glamazon was wandering about in LTS so I went & checked in with her & then went back to the SHOWCASE. By this time I was fairly tipsy having knocked back 2 pints in about 15 minutes, but it was nothing to write to MARJE PROOPS about. I had told FIFI to take the thronging hordes to the WENDY'S in OXFORD STREET, so after another visit to the pub, me & the 'A' joined them there.

Apparently FIONA (for it was she) lost MIKE CHEATER & TONY WILLIAMS who said they had been in F.P.2 (pers--onally, I didn't know FRANK PLOWRIGHT had been cloned). Having some trouble about finding the way, the feebe finally made it to WENDY'S & began to eat heartily.... when they were eventually served....I don't blame the staff myself...I wouldn't be that keen to serve X-FANS. **ONLY IF THEY HAD FRESH LIVE GUINEA PIGS AVAILABLE.** Mr. CHEATER entertained by lecturing on the art of eating big burgers, consuming several as a demonstra--tion. Then me & the beat buddy (sorry, ROSS) arrived, closely followed by GERARD 'I am an iconclast' KINGDON & the legendary STEVE WHITAKER, B.A. (**HAS ANYONE TOLD STEVE WHAT YOU PEOPLE THINK 'B.A.' STANDS FOR YET ??**) Immediately, the volume trebbled. It was around this time that SWEETCHEEKS SUZIE MASON showed me & Mr. 'A' her dirty pictures. Very 'ahem' they were too. Yes. Hardly the sort of thing you expect from such an English rose. For no bonds could ever keep me from she...Anyway, who expected a female equivalent to DAVE PRICE to exist ?? At least on EARTH-1 ??

The voting on what to do next was as follows: 2 were in favour of having a game of football (obviously we do have some real men in the Club although then again I suspect that one of the 2 was SUE M...), 2 didn't mind & the rest wanted to go on a boat with a bar & get drunk. (**SEEMS A BIT CRAZY TO BUY A PLANK OF WOOD TO TAKE ON BOARD A BOAT**)

Down by the river, DAZZLING DANNY the R. got out it out & started clicking. Seizing the opportunity to demonstrate his innate artistry, S. MURRAY WHITAKER Esq immediately took over art direction & came up with a fiendish ploy to get every--body in the photo quickly. 'There goes a tenner', he shouted, pointing to the Obelisk (aka P.J.POOLE). Everybody rushed into place, displ--aying their best backsides for the camera. Actually, he simply made the party line up on steps so that they would be in rows.

Pictures taken, we got on the boat. We got off the boat. No bar - horror! And then got on another one. FIONA paid & then she circulated. DAVE PRICE suggested that she should buy a pint. So she did & drank it. Meanwhile, STEVE WHATLEY & me had a drinking competition (& I lost). The Welsh Wallies produced loads of copies of AURA which in our drunken stupour, I & several others bought. Very nice it was too. Many profound topics (a hazelnut in every bite) were discussed. The artists had a hob-nob. Everyone else had a pint. We were so busy illuminat--ing each other with talk of video games, great watering holes of the world, the lack of real writing in Fandom (us bitch - but of course), & the price of FRANK PLOWRIGHT's favourite cheese (IAIN MALLET - X-FAN #280 - where are you ??) that 3 of our party managed to slip away un-noticed. The words 'menage a trous' were mentioned, but I certainly don't know what that means with reference to SALACIOUS SUE MASON, PILEDRIVER POOLE & DAFFY DANNY REDDEN.

After the boat got back to the point of embarktion (no ice creams ARAH!), the party split fir din-dins. First off the mark were a selection of our Celtic Soul Brothers bound for another WENDY'S with STEPHEN & GERARD in tow. Secondly, PETER & the POOLETTES went for some grub (namely a pizza - 'Looks like an abortion' - ROSS COWIN'84) because they were too hungry after their exertions to wait for the rest of the party who also wanted a pizza. The Samar--itans of the group, of course, did wait. What for ? I hear you scream in unison. Well, sundry sycophantic leftovers had yet to confirm or book accomodation. Phone calls all round. Thanks to STEVE WHATLEY for sorting them out.

Anyway, we set out for the PIZZALAND but I decided that I wanted to go to the little boys room & they refused to wait for me.

(absolute lie. He insisted on catch--ing us up - F), so I got lost. 1... 2....3....Aaaaahhh! After finishing my abultions I shot after them but they had vanished to a table in the window of the pre-arranged PIZZALAND. (And there is justice in this world since the POOLETTES actually took longer than we did to get there -F) I checked out all the PIZZALANDS I could find but I couldn't find them anywhere. (**BUT THERE'S ONLY TWO THAT YOU COULD HAVE CHECKED. YOU CERTAINLY CAN'T HOLD YOUR ALCHOLIC BEVERAGES.**) I decided to go for a walk to clear my head & passed the CHARING CROSS 'OUR PRICE' where I decided to pop in. Browsing through the 'W's' in the cassette pile I came upon, at long last, the first WATERBOYS album. The ludicrous price of £5.69 did not put me off & I staggered away from the record shop a happy man, the theme to 'A GIRL CALLED JOHNNY' rattling in my head. (**OBVIOUSLY THEY SAW YOU COMING**) (Back in the pisza parlour, MR. 'A' was all set to arrange search part--ies to retrieve his lost buddy - F) In a not too distant PIZZALAND, FIONA & MR.'A' were extolling the virtues of the DUMAREST sage, I stood dazed outside the WARNER WEST END LEICESTER SQUARE watching a video of PRINCE:'ONLY DOVES CRY'. When this was over I elected to go to the TWO BREWERS, MONMOUTH STREET - as it was CRACKERS EVENING - the monthly meeting of LONDON comic fans & their friends - & see if anyone had showed up there. I never got the chance. Before I had begun to stir a hand grasped my shoulder firmly. I was shocked. Who was accosting me with this grip of iron ? It was FIONA with ANDY & DANNY QUINN, with others following on behind (not an easy trick). They conducted me to the TWO BREWERS. Anyroadup we got in the pub & despite the publican doing his best to keep DEVILISH DANNY QUINN out (due to the fact that he was under age at the time - despite being an awful lot more mature than most X-FANS) we were soon seated & happily drinking away. Soon after we the rest of the guys showed up.

Around 8.30, they did it again ...disappear suddenly. 'We're going to see SUE off', came distantly across the frenzied babble. But we know differently, don't we children.

If DAVE PRICE wasn't lusting over the barmaids by this time, he should have been, as SEAN ROBERTS looked on with a world weary concern. Goodnight, have a nice sleep.

Meanwhile, when all good children were wending their way bed-ward, the bad children were living it up & the sick children were visiting the toilet.

Urrrhhh. Well, true believers. This is the point in time, soon after DANNY QUINN left us, when I retired to the little person's abode in the happy hostilry, to perform certain ablutions ie to be sick. If you're off-ended so by far by the tastelessness of this arty-oull, well then think how I must feel having to recall horrifying times I spent locked in the loo. At one point I slumped in the corner much the worse for wear & (I think) lapsed into some sort of cosmic coma - apparently I was in there for quite a long time.

Anyway, it was lovely. See you next year.

MARTIN HAND'84
(with memory assistance from FIONA JEROME'84)

CLUB MEMBERS ATTENDING (some of whom got mentioned in the text) were(in no particular order than that of the signing- in list): GREG HILL, DANNY QUINN, MIKE CHEATER, TONY WILLIAMS, MARTIN HAND, SUE MASON, STEVE WHITAKER, GERARD KINGDON, DANNY REDDEN, PETER POOLE, STEVE WHATLEY, SEAN ROBERTS, DAVE'JOSE'ROACH, DAVE PRICE, ANDY FOXWELL, DAVID WILLIAMS, TONY KEHOE, FIONA JEROME, ANDREW LITTLEFIELD, ALAN THOMAS, JIM COWLES, SIMON JOWETT & someone with a prescription signature.

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THE UNCANNY X-OUTING!

AS TOLD BY JOHN SHORT NUMBER 4

HE IS MIKE TEAGUE, A MEMBER OF THE X-MEN FAN CLUB...
PEOPLE KEEP ASKING ME WHY MY OUTING REPORTS DON'T MENTION THE THINGS THAT HAPPEN IN JOHN SHORT'S X-OUTING STRIP...
...WELL IF I TOLD YOU WE'D BEEN CAPTURED BY THE LONDON HELL-FIRE CLUB'S TAXI DRIVER HIT-SQUAD...
...WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME?
TEAGUE FOREVER
HA HA HA! WELL DONE, NOW WE HAVE THESE MEMBERS OF THE X-MEN FAN CLUB, I CAN PUT MY PLAN INTO ACTION.
ER, YES SIR... BY THE WAY I HAD THE METER RUNNING WHEN WE SNACHED 'EM. SO IT'LL BE DOUBLE THE NORMAL RATE.
IT'LL BE WORTH IT, WHEN WE USE THESE FOOLS TO TRAP THE X-MEN. HA HA!
OH, AND ONE OTHER THING SIR...
...ONE OF THE MUTIE LOVERS GOT AWAY...
OKAY SUCKERS-- YOU'VE TAKEN YER BEST SHOT!
LOGAN WAS ERE
NOW IT'S MY TURN
JUST AS SOON AS I GET OUT OF THIS SEWER!
NEXT LAZER EDDIE -- ALONE!

•AVENGING MUTANTS•

'Whatever you may do to us, we'll remain AVENGERS 'till the end!'

Thus spake the SCARLET WITCH in AVENGERS #45. What have the AVENGERS got to inspire such loyalty from their members ?

There has been a lot of prestige attached to the title 'AVENGER'. Remember how often villains have used it when talking about THOR, CAP & IRON MAN. 'AVENGER'. The very word seems to be a passport to respect in the MARVEL UNIVERSE.

From almost the very beginning (AVENGERS #5) the group has enjoyed 'AVENGER PRIORITY' status. It has functioned very closely with officialdom. This has been beneficial to both sides. The AVENGERS have had respect &, apart from a couple of isolated occasions, a lot of freedom. And by having a grouping of heroes together as AVENGERS, the Government has easy access to Earth's mightest heroes.

The AVENGERS status as heroes has been promoted by the Government & the media. Whereas the X-MEN are referred to as mutants, the AVENGERS have always been known as 'mighty'. With the exception of the HULK all the AVENGERS look extremely human - especially CAPTAIN AMERICA, who has almost always, symbolised the team. The AVENGERS are people like us with super-powers rather than as mutants - a separate species. All that separates CAPTAIN AMERICA from ordinary people is a gaudy costume. He's just a highly skilled acrobat (apart from his short-lived super-strength, which I don't believe was ever publicly acknowledged).

The AVENGERS have always been very much a public group. They have civil receptions, such as in AVENGERS # 45, & call regular press conferences (in # 13 for example). They are not secret, aloof or isolated from everyday contact. Everybody knows where they live - they even know the WASP's real identity. Her marriage break-up was even covered in the gossip columns, just like every other celebrity. Because the AVENGERS are so contactable, people do get in touch with them. Everyone with a problem which they believe only a super-hero can help with can turn to them for help. They're policemen in colourful costumes & reputed unusual abilities. They're the protectors of the MARVEL EARTH. How many times has the public heard about how they save the world, or even the universe.??

So, being an AVENGER brings respect & privilages. This extends to reformed super-villains as well as heroes. In the beginning all the team had received publicity & only the HULK caused any kind of controversy - but as we all know, he was only around for a short while before the heroes hounded the menace. The idea came about that the AVENGERS cannot be anything but good people. HAWKEYE, who had probably received little public attention in any case, had been a misguided individual who had now turned to the side of justice. The american way is to give everyone, even ex-cons & villains (except Red Indians) an even break & the chance to make good. This applies equally to american heroes. Make no mistake, the team are american heroes to their underpants.

QUICKSILVER & the SCARLET WITCH had also been 'villains' In their portrayal in the comics they certainly suit the label of 'misguided' better than HAWKEYE in their earliest appearances. They had very little public expos--ure prior to joining the team - the X-MEN & their battles were usually private affairs & those that were not seem to be hushed up by them--selves or PROFESSOR X. Little was known of their lives as villains by the public, so they were readily accepted as heroes. Notice that no mention is made of their being mutants in the early issues. The AVENGERS are 'merely' heroes.

Being AVENGERS has suited WANDA & PIETRO. The SCARLET WITCH said in AVENGERS # 234, 'I don't know what would have become of us, had we not been accepted as AVENGERS. The AVENGERS gave purpose to our lives, gave us something to be part of'. Working with the team was the best thing that could have happened to them. The AVENGERS, like AMERICA (supposedly) has no internal bias or prejudices. Everyone is accepted on merit - mutants, Norse gods & androids are all accepted there. If they were good enough for the AVENGERS then they were good enough for the general public. The AVENGERS became a safe haven for the mutants where they were generally free from any mass anti-mutant hysteria. All the mutants could hide in plain sight - their powers would not be seen as some kind of witchcraft.

It must be remembered that the good will & prestige is not all one way. The Govern--ment has also received approval by being associated & actively involved in their work - highly probable for political capital & for rather than against the team.

Being AVENGERS has certa--inly helped the BEAST, QUICK--SILVER & the SCARLET WITCH in Government standing. By the time # 181 rolled around, the official attitude towards mutants has hardened - yet the re-shuffle enabled them to stay with the team. HENRY PETER GYRICH, now a confirmed distruster of mutantkind had no objections to the security status of these particular mutants. That in itself is as large an indication of the AVENGERS status & testimony to the power of the media.

PAUL HAYWARD '84

Rachels & Realities

It is a well-known, if under-publicised fact that most MARVEL writers follow a system of script evolution , otherwise known as the 'write now - rationalize later' syndrome. This makes a piece such as this subject to scuttling from the official MARVEL writers, because this is not a grand expose of the scheme which has been emanating from the MARVEL offices because no such scheme does not, or ever has, existed. Rather an attempt to draw together the relevant information & deduce an explanation which accounts for the literature produced so far.

In the real world, before EINSTEIN, it was gener--ally accepted that time was merely RATE OF OCCURRENCE. Certainly occurance rate is the only measurable, indeed definable version of time. But as EINSTEIN's theory, verified by space-travel, shows this is not the case. Hence if absolute time is independent of occurrence, travel through time while remaining in the same dimension is impossible or at least uncont--rollable because of man's inability to affect any--thing but occurrence.

General theories on 'time travel' vary between science fiction writers, but sofar in MARVEL every--one seems to have stuck to the criteria 'keep it simple'. For a long time now, MARVEL have used the ALTERNATIVE REALITY THEOREM - which means during every tiny fraction of absolute time, an infinite number of alternative realities are created,-one for each possibility of existance. Hence 'time travel' is merely a transdimensional jump (this is confirmed by the FANTASTIC FOUR's recent dimension hop by use of RICHARDS Snr's time platform) into a universe where the big bang occurred at a different moment in absolute time. By the same token, it is impossible to time-jump to a universe exactly the same as your own because realities are unique - although if you are lucky, the differences will be minimal.

DESTINY's power to view the relative probabilities of occurence & deduce the most probable course the dimension will take is quite closely linked in nature to those of the SCARLET WITCH to alter those probabilities. Furthermore, the dimension-shifting aspect of time travel explains the synchronous occurrence passage experienced so far in cases of time jump without major spacial displacement ie 10 hours in one dimension is pretty much the same as 10 hours in a similar dimension.

Dimension travel is essentially psychic in nature, as demonstrated by RACHEL, LOCKJAW & the various exponents of the DARKFORCE, although it maybe precip--itated by electrical activity of the correct sort. This 'artificial' dimension shifting is quite myste--rious in origin if you consider the 2 inventors of the time platform both should have had to spend a large amount of time (sic) on the project but when finished neither DR.DOOM or RICHARDS Snr knew how to use it properly. DR. DOOM had to enlist the FANTASTIC FOUR's unwilling co-operation, while RICHARDS Snr hurled himself into a stopgap dimension. This suggets the time platform invented itself, so to speak.

Further evidence is the strong tendency foe events to cast travellers back to their respective corrent places in space-time. Such as IRON MAN # 150, where in about 8 hours DR. DOOM & TONY STARK are able to create not only a'time machine' worth a few centuries but also an effective displacement controller to set them down in neutral territory. OK, they are clever chaps but really... Another example is the end of X-MEN # 142 where all it takes is KATE's belief that her mission has succeeded to send her & KITTY hurtl--ing through the proverbial abysee. Pretty mysterious stuff, huh ??

The most well-documented example of time jumping in the MARVEL UNIVERSE is the dimension-hopping of RACHEL SUMMERS - which illustrates nicely both the pros & cons of this sort of storyline.

It looks like MR. CLAREMONT has decided to write the definitive version of 'WHAT IF PHOENIX HAD NOT DIED ?' so continuing from 'PHOENIX: THE UNTOLD STORY', JEAN GREY lives & is partially lobotomised. The question of whether or not MADELYN PRYOR survives the plane crash is a sticky one which I shall leave to your own imagination.

Without KATE's guidance from the future, RAVEN assassinates SENATOR KELLY but is hunted down & incar--cerated or killed. Hence ROGUE never comes to promin--

--ence. This leads to the quest--ion of the BROOD because it was BINARY's fire-power that led in part to their defeat & it was the injection of an egg into XAVIER that indirectly led to his regaining the use of his legs. Thus the BROOD can never become quite as much of an issue. As a consequence of MS. DARKHOLME losing her position as ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENCE FOR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, she never creates the link between FORGE & the Government, thus the NEUTRALISER never gets used by GYRICH & STORM retains her powers. And also, thus the tacky old inhibitor collars in X-MEN # 141.

CYCLOPS never goes off to recover from JEAN's death & thus the problems on MAGNETO's island are simplified greatly. Certainly the X-MEN & ILLYANA do not stay there long enough for X-MEN # 160 to occur. Since JEAN GREY was alive, the trouble with MASTER--MIND, part of which results in ORORO's haircut never rises to dire level & so STORM retains her locks as well as her powers.

It seems unlikely that the NEW MUTANTS were ever formed because XAVIER never had the same sense of loneliness that resulted from the BROOD campaign. Although this point is quest--ionable with respect to WOLFS--BANE & KARMA, PSYCHE would undoub--tably died because ILLYANA was not present with her soulsword, while SUNSPOT & CANNONBALL would have ended up in the HELLFIRE CLUB's grimey clutches. This explains the extreme lack of combat ready mutants in 2013. That just about deals with all the consequences of PHOENIX not dying as presented in RACHEL's life story. However, 3 inconist--encies have yet to be sorted.

Firstly, # 141 seems to indicate a great deal more mutual commitment between KATE & PIOTR than currently seems probable & so the question of whether or not the SECRET WARS took place in RACHEL's dimension. This discrepency is worsened by the fact that same panel, as previously fingered in # 141, insinuates the THING was killed by SENTINELS. Whereas the SECRET WARS took about a month of occurrence less than a day passed on EARTH. Yet BEN GRIMM has been gone a few months now, which should be a very large amount of occurence out there. This is a mess which is going to take a lot of explaining & I am not taking responsibility. Perhaps the planet is getting closer to our galaxy & gradually relative time is speeding up; but if not, I would think the THING would die from old age before the SENTINELS could lay a finger on him.

Secondly, perhaps most seriously

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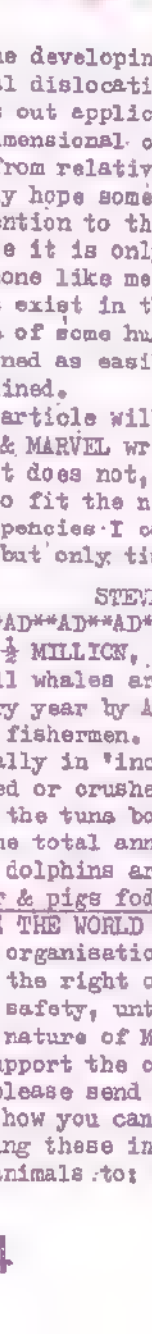

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is RACHEL SUMMERS' age. The army attack on the mansion as shown in NM#18/XM#188 happened in 1990 because the 'normal' ILLYANA was 14. The pictures of RACHEL then show she cannot have been younger than, say, 5, & almost certainly older because her powers were manifest. Therefore, in 2013 she would be at least 28. But recently she has been seen to be almost one of the NEW MUTANTS & is regularly classified along with them as a 'child' by XAVIER when she should be considerably older than COLOSSUS! Strange indeed. Perhaps malnutrition has left her the worse for wear or a major time anomaly has occured or (as is most likely)MR. CLAREMONT has messed up his sums.

Thirdly, XAVIER's death. There are 3 versions of this. All 3 from supposedly the same future. In X-MEN # 141, KATE says, 'The BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS will murder Presidential candidate ROBERT KELLY, along with CHARLES XAVIER & MOIRA McTAGGERT'. On the middle panel of the very next page she indicates XAVIER was killed by SENTINELS (it does not look like MOON-DRAGON to me!). Finally, in RACHEL's recent bona fide flashbacks, XAVIER is seen being killed by the army in their attack. Possibly KATE was merely trying to goad the X-MEN into action by relating the threat to XAVIER - but that sounds a little fishy.

These last 2 inconsistencies raise the quite disturbing question of whether or not the RACHEL currently hanging around is the RACHEL from X-MEN # 141/142.

These are the sort of muddles that can happen when you start messing around with the fabric of reality.

Nevertheless, the developing situation of RACHEL's temporal dislocation is one of the very few thought out applications of time-jumping & the dimensional complications that can arise from relatively small time jumps. I can only hope some of the other writers pay attention to those ideas because otherwise it is only a matter of time before someone like me proves that the X-MEN do not exist in the MARVEL UNIVERSE because of some huge anomaly which cannot be explained as easily as the ones that I have outlined.

Perhaps this article will withstand the ravages of time & MARVEL writers with smart ideas. Even if it does not, you can still alter my ideas to fit the new circumstances. As to the discrepencies I cannot explain. It is a cliché, but only time will tell.

STEVE PANKHURST '84

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500,000 (that's ½ MILLION, folks) dolphins, porpoises & small whales are barbarically slaughtered every year by American, Japanese & Canadian tuna fishermen. The majority are killed accidentally in 'incidental' kills, trapped & drowned or crushed in the huge fishing nets of the tuna boats. But at least two-fifths of the total annual kill is deliberate. The dolphins are killed for pet food, fertiliser & pigs fodder. THIS MADNESS HAS GOT TO STOP! THE WORLD MARINE LIFE OBSERVERS is an organisation dedicated to fighting for the right of ALL marine life to live in safety, unthreatened by the destructive nature of Man. If you would like to support the campaign to save dolphins, please send an SAE for more details on how you can take an active role in protecting these intelligent, non-aggressive animals to: WORLD MARINE LIFE OBSERVERS, c/o 6 LITCHFIELD CRESCENT, MIDANBURY, SOUTHAMPTON SO2 2BJ.

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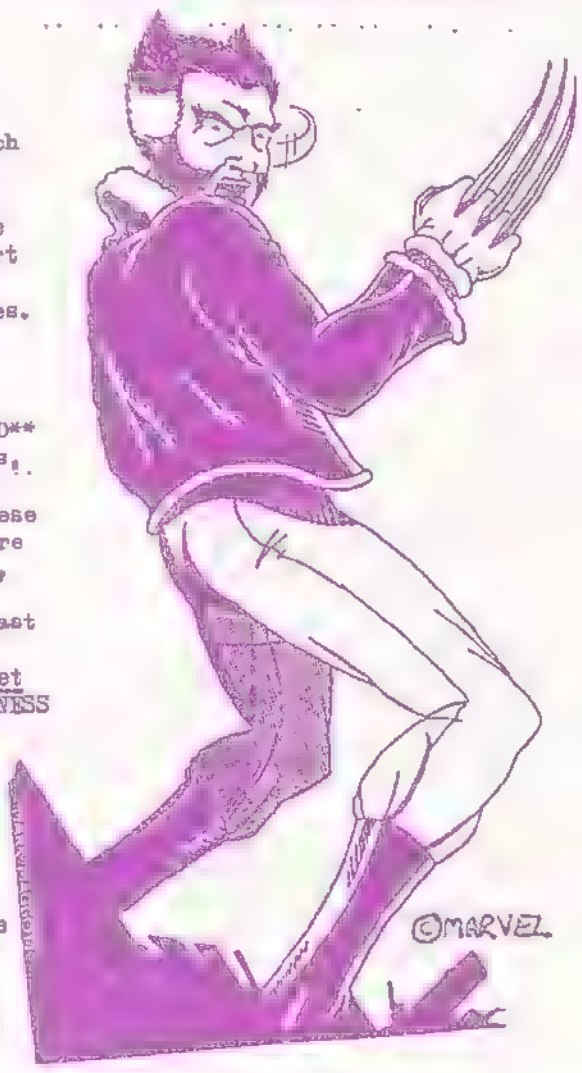

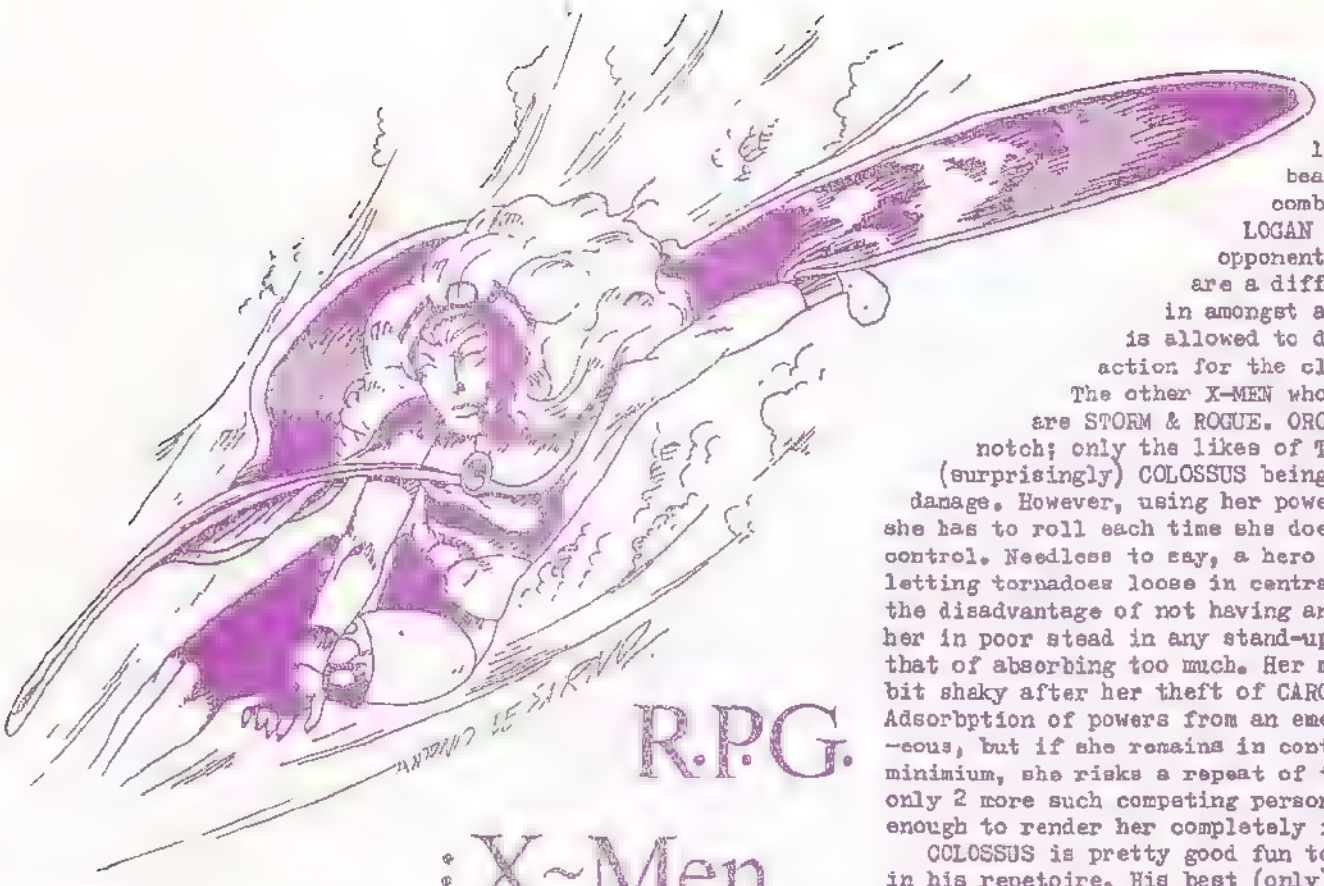

R.P.G.

:X~Men

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As many of you know, TSR, the creators of DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, have recently brought out a super-hero role-playing game which has been developed in conjunction with MARVEL & which was designed with the primary objective of allowing people to role-play MARVEL characters. I don't intend to go into details about the game here as those of you who are not familiar with role-playing are likely to get left behind whilst the role-players amongst you can get the information elsewhere. (I've already reviewed the game in my own games fanzine, THE ACOLYTE, & I'd be happy to forward a copy of the review to anyone who sends me an sae. Also the DECEMBER issue (# 21) of TSR (UK)'s magazine, IMAGINE, is being devoted to the game). What I thought would be of most inter--est to CEREBRO readers were some thoughts on how the X-MEN have been portrayed in the game & what it is like to have to stand up to MAGNETO & the SENTINELS yourself.

As befits one of MARVEL's premiere groups, the X-MEN were amongst the first heroes to be portrayed in the game. WOLVERINE is one of the group of characters whose game statistics are included in the basic set & the very first scenario pack produced for the game introduces the rest of the team (the AVENGERS scenario was issued at the same time but the X-MEN get the honour of being in scenario number MH-1). Full character statistics are given for COLOSSUS, NIGHTCRAWLER, ROGUE, STORM, KITTY, LOCKHEED & the PROFESSOR (though the latter two are not intended to be run by players). The basic game also contains a large part of the information necessary to add CYCLOPS to the list. MAGNETO & the SENTINELS are the only regular X-MEN enemies available. Statistics for the SCARLET WITCH are in the AVENGERS scenario pack. CHRIS CLAR--EMONT's name is not amongst the design credits, but the X-MEN scenario artwork is by SAL BUSCEMA & JOHN BYRNE.

In playing the supplied X-MEN adventure it quickly became obvious just why SCOTT & the PROFESSOR go on so much about training & teamwork. A super-hero team is a very complex combat unit & getting all of the individual powers working together in harmony can make a vast difference to the effect--iveness of the group. TSR kindly start the X-MEN scenario off with a session in the DANGER ROOM which gives the players a chance to learn how to work together before tangling with any villains. This worked quite well & I can quite see groups of people playing the X-MEN in a long campaign-style game badgering their referee for more DANGER ROOM sessions. The other thing that was immediately obvious from the game is that it is hard being a mutant. CAPTAIN AMERICA can gain benefits from just standing on street corners signing autographs, but X-MEN have to do all of their adventuring in secret to avoid being arrested or attacked by mutant-hating mobs.

As far as the individual characters go, WOLVERINE was the most entertaining. He is one of the few heroes equipped with a 'hack & slash' type weapon as opposed to a 'slugging' weapon. With his claws out he has a 15% base chance of dealing a mortal blow to his opponent. On the other hand, with the claws in he's a bit of a cream puff - COLOSSUS would eat him for breakfast. Fortunately there are ways round this. Heroes gain 'Karma points' for doing good deeds & these can be spent to modify die rolls. If LOGAN does cause someone serious damage he can spend 50 points, after the event, to reduce that die roll to merely a good hit. How--ever, if I were to say that 50 points is not much less than the reward for beating MAGNETO in single combat - well you can see that LOGAN has to be careful with fleshy opponents! Robots, on the other hand, are a different matter. Put WOLVERINE in amongst a group of SENTINELS that he is allowed to destroy & you won't see the action for the clouds of iron filings.

The other X-MEN who have to be a bit careful are STORM & ROGUE. ORORO's powers are pretty top notch; only the likes of THING, HULK, THOR & perhaps (surprisingly) COLOSSUS being able to deal out more damage. However, using her powers at full pitch is risky; she has to roll each time she does so to keep them under control. Needless to say, a hero can loose a lot of Karma for letting tornadoes loose in central NEW YORK. STORM also has the disadvantage of not having any body armour which stands her in poor stead in any stand-up fight. ROGUE's problem is that of absorbing too much. Her mental state is already a bit shaky after her theft of CAROL DANVERS' personality. Adsorbption of powers from an enemy is not always instantan--eous, but if she remains in contact longer than the bare minimium, she risks a repeat of the MS. MARVEL episode & only 2 more such competing personalities in her head will be enough to render her completely insane.

COLOSSUS is pretty good fun to play, if a little limited in his repetoire. His best (only) tactic is to take a leaf out of BEN GRIMM's book & charge headlong at his foes yelling, 'It's clobberin' time!'. Standing still & slugging he can lay most people low, but with a big enough run-up he could see off MAGNETO with a single blow; provided MAGGY is daft enough to leave his personal force field switched off. How--ever, PETER has to be a bit careful about what is behind his target. If he misses on a charge it is off into the wide blue yonder, & quite possibly another wrecked wall & the bruises on his own body.

KITTY & NIGHTCRAWLER are both quite difficult to play as they are next to useless in a fight (except where KITTY phases through robots & damages their circuitry). They are, however, very good at reconnaisance. The only problem here is the sulphurous stench from KURT's 'BAMF!' which tends to alert foes to his preference. NIGHTCRAWLER is also quite useful for surprise moves, though this too can cause problems. In one game I ran the player taking the part of NIGHTCRAWLER tried to teleport up to MAGNETO, grab a bomb out of his hand & teleport away again. Unfortunately the bomb was in a steel casing which stuck firm to MAGNETO's hand as KURT teleported away with it.....

MAGNETO & the PROFESSOR are both intended to be run by the referee as non-player characters, though I suppose there is no reason why you couldn't play them if you wanted. Both of them are pretty awesome prospects, XAVIER dealing out mental bolts with the weight of HULK's fists (80 tons & according to the book!) & MAGNUS largely because he is able to hand out damage whilst sheltering behind a magnetic force field which is proof against everything except THOR's hammer; & the likes of HULK, THING & COLOSSUS - all with a very long run-up.

Overall, the game is pretty good fun, especially when played by people who know the characters well. Fights are fast & furious, just like in the comics, & there is plenty of room for humourous moments in between the serious business of saving the world. Hopefully, further X-MEN material will follow from TSR in the future. Metal figures are, I believe, already available in the States, but TSR figures are generally of rather poor quality & they are very expensive to ship so TSR(UK) don't like importing them. With any luck we'll also get scenario packs for the NEW MUTANTS & the OLD X-MEN team. In fact if TSR don't come up with the latter quick then MIKE LEWIS or I might well do it for them.

PETE TAMLYN'84

My address for those who want the article review is :
2 POPLAR ROAD, THE COPPICE, AYLESBURY, BUCKS HP22 5DJ.

POSTSCRIPT: The MARVEL ROLE PLAYING GAME BOX SET costs £10.50.
Each of the accesory modules (including the X-MEN 'BREEDER BOMBS' unit) cost £2.95.
It isn't totally essential to have the MARVEL REFEREES SHIELD module to play the game.
The MARVEL SUPER-HEROES METAL MINATURES (sets 1 & 2) have yet to be manufactured STATESIDE according to TSR(UK).

AN ENDING...

BY PAUL S. CHOKRAN

HIS NAME IS BOBBY DRAKE AND HE DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE!
ANTED MUTANT
WEAK WITH HUNGER AND FATIGUE, HIS ICE-MAKING POWERS ARE USELESS AGAINST THE MOB,
WHO FALL UPON HIM LIKE VULTURES.
WE ARE YOUR FRIENDS
IT DOESN'T TAKE LONG.
HE'S NOT DEAD YET, IS HE?
MP
NOT QUITE.
GOOD, THEN LET'S STRING HIM UP AND WE CAN USE HIM FOR SOME TARGET PRACTISE.

OVER THERE, ON THE FENCE.

WAIT A MINUTE! WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT!

WHY DON'T WE JUST LEAVE HIM TO THE ROBOTS?

WHAT FOR? AND LET THEM HAVE ALL THE FUN?

'SIDES, HE'S ONLY A MUTIE, AIN'T HE?

SAY, WHAT GIVES? YOU'RE NOT TURNING INTO A MUTIE LOVER, ARE YOU?

GOOD! 'CAUSE YOU KNOW WHAT WE DO TO MUTIE LOVERS, RIGHT?

NO!

STRING HIM UP, YOU TWO...

THEN WE CAN HAVE SOME FUN...

BAM! BAM! BAM!

TO THESE THUGS, THIS IS FUN.

BUT WHAT WILL THEY DO WHEN ALL THE MUTIES HAVE GONE HOME?

DON'T WORRY, THOUGH, NO DOUBT THEY'LL FIND SOMEBODY ELSE TO PLAY WITH...

BETTER STI... THEY COULD A... PLAY WITH EACH OTHER...

STOP IT! YOU SCUM!

YOU BLOODY ANIMALS!

WHY CAN'T YOU LEAVE US ALONE?!

AAARG!

UNGH!

DZ

E!

SHIR

Pi

Chok

WARREN? IS- IS THAT YOU?

EASY NOW, BOBBY, EASY

WHAT HAPPENED, WARREN, WHAT DID WE DO WRONG?

SHH, IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW, BOBBY, I'M WITH YOU.

DON'T LEAVE ME, WARREN, I DON'T WANT TO DIE ALONE....

YOU'RE NOT—

IT-IT WASN'T A BAD LIFE Y'KNOW, HECK, WE MUST'VE SAVED THE UNIVERSE A FEW TIMES, EH?

'COURSE WE DID.

IT'S NOT THEIR FAULT YOU KNOW, I'M SURE THEY DON'T REALLY MEAN IT--- ...I'M SURE---

WARREN? I-I CAN SEE A LIGHT—THERE'S SOMEONE THERE—HOLDING OUT HIS HAND—IT-IT'S THE PROFESSOR!

HE-HE'S STANDING ON TOP OF A-A GIANT RAINBOW! AND-WARREN! I-I CAN SEE THE END OF THE RAINBOW! IT-IT'S PARADISE!

AND I CAN SEE OUR FRIENDS! THERE'S JEAN-AND SCOTT-AND HANK—AND THERE'S CANDY! THEY'RE ALL SMILING AND WAVING, AND SO HAPPY...

OH, WARREN, IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL--- WHY DON'T YOU COME WITH ME, HEY?

IT'S SO PEACEFUL THERE; NO MORE FEAR, NO MORE PAIN--- SO HAPPY...

DON'T WORRY, BOBBY, I'M COMING WITH YOU....

MUTANTS KNOWN AS ANGEL AND ICEMAN HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

WILL CONTINUE PATROLLING.

FIN

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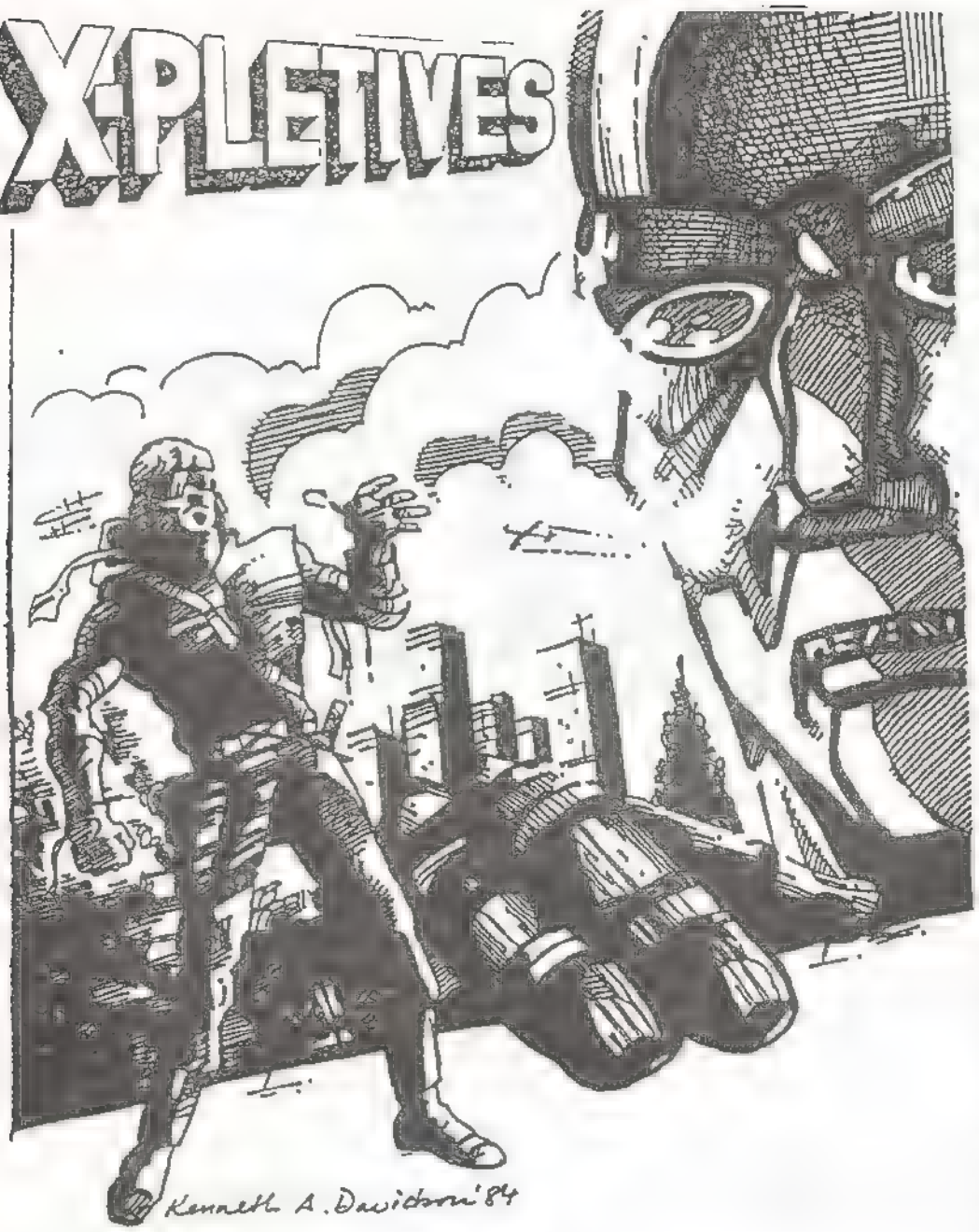
X-PLETIVES



JUST WHEN I THOUGHT I'D HAVE A RATHER LIGHT X-PLETIVES COLUMN TO RUN THIS TIME, I THEN CAME ACROSS ANOTHER 20 OR SO LETTERS THAT I TUCKED AWAY IN MY SAFE PLACE, THUS MAKING A GRAND TOTAL OF 47 X-PLETIVES THIS TIME. HAVING SAID THAT, I KNOW I'LL BE ADMINISTERING A GREAT DEAL OF SHOE-HORNING THIS TIME ARCUND, SO THAT EVERYONE HAS A CEANCE TO SAY SOME--THING CAN DO SO. AND JUST TO MAKE IT INTERESTING I'LL BE REDUCING CERTAIN COMIC TITLES TO RECOGNISED ABBREVIATIONS FOR SPACE ECONOMY TO SEE IF YOU CAN ALL STILL FOLLOW IT. ENOUGH CHAT...LETS X-PLETE...

X-FAN # 507 A good CEREBRO - very professional-looking cover (I've been trying to work out why: Bolder layouts & less fussy lettering must have something to do with it). As long as CEPEBRO is a Clubzine, the basic content isn't going to change ie some of it will continue to be very good & the rest will continue not to be. So the only way it can develop must be in terms of present--ation. Not being much of a whizz at this myself, I'm finding it hard to put my finger on why CEREBRO tends to look more amateur than other zines & anyway, # 20 is pretty good in this respect. Congratulations.

Nice to see some discussion of the DEFENDERS who are certainly one of the pleasures of my youth these days. When ex-X-MEN started appear--ing en masse, I was pretty suspic--ious along the lines PAUL HAYWARD indicated: It would be naive to regard this as a rip-off, so lets call it a marketing device. And some tricks towards the end of the OLD DEFENDERS, such as if my memory serves, having ANGEL on the cover of a comic which he doesn't actually appear in reinforced that view. And I still think that 'explaining' the dwarf was a mistake. But the humour of the strip is irrestible. 'IF THIS BE WALRUS' for example (!Woo! Woo! More destruction!') & 'ITS TIME FOR THE PENGUIN ON TOP OF YOUR TELEVISION SET TO EXPLODE'. All this but also interesting characters. Nice to see BEAST, ICEMAN & ANGEL working toget--her again & if their tour of WARREN's property should occasionally (just occasionally) take them up to ANCHORAGE to see an old friend, that would be OK too. Just so long as RACHEL doesn't get mixed up in this. Nice to see CANDY again too(CANDY SOUTHERN - now that's a joke for the real old-timers). This makes it look as if I do regard the book as some kind of old X-MEN's reunion & I don't, there's more to it than that. I like GARGOYLE & VAL (VERY nice touch in # 135, playing the story with a light touch but not forgett--ing to remind us just who VALKYRIE is) & I'm intrigued by CLOUD & MOONDRAGON. Interesting to compare 2 cases: ROGUE fairly rapidly being associated with the X-MEN & MOON--DRAGON seen by her colleagues as even more a part of the DEFENDERS & yet us, as readers, being encouraged to keep our suspicions. The weakne--sses of the book seem to be 2: Firstly the one PAUL identified, that the group has no clear raison d'etre It springs from its members' desire to be a super-hero team, rather than a need to defend anything. It has no natural enemy & has to take what comes its way: Mainly rather quirky, second-division villains. And secondly, the DEFENDERS haven't yet blended into a team - there's still a strong sense of the ex-X's as a team within a team. But as long as the book is such sheer fun as it is at present, I'll keep reading it.

SURVEY: Most interesting part to me was the X-MEN section. I don't share your surprise at ROGUE's popularity, GEOFF, or at its rapidity. If anything, novelty probably works in her favour. But she has an interesting power: The ability to mimic means she can be used to examine other people's powers since what she gets is the inherent-potential bit, but not the skill to use it. This is a sort of 'theft' which works quite well for a baddy, so its good 'casting against type' to see how it works for a goody. (Plus now that she also has MS. MARVEL's powers as a residual, she isn't a dead loss even if there are no enemies around to mimic). And psychologically too, its interesting to see her change of sides works out (maybe a bit too smoothly - see above). Also to see the effect on someone of having the sort of power that works involuntarily - look how much of CYCLOPS' personality relates to this. # 182 & 185 begin to work out some of the implications of this: I'll be interested to see whether ROGUE maintains her popularity as we move from questions to answers. More surprising to see was the relative popularity of CYCLOPS (relative to what I'd expected: I began to think that my brother & I were the only people left who liked him). He doesn't do enormously well in either current or non-current list, but that must partly be because his vote is split between the two. And I must admit to some surprise that there were actually people around who voted for PROF X as one of their favourite X-MEN. As a person, he's a pain in the neck (or elsewhere), as a character he contains too many unresolved ambiguities. Is he a natural leader or just an overbearing bully?? (& if these are symonymous, are we going to let him go on being it ??) How come he's allowed to read people's minds when they aren't looking ?? And how much younger is he going to get ??

On series for CEREBRO. Yes, an INDEX to some of the long-running villains would be worthwhile; & supporting cast too. (I notice from the 'non-current' voting that some people I regard as supporting cast look like ex-members to other people - which must be an encouragement not to be too rigid about categories) Past issue reviews/ my favourite comic - I don't think that 'every--one does that' is enough reason to rule it out, especially for a Clubzine. People might feel able to write such an article for CEREBRO who wouldn't write it for 'everyone'. But, the main drawback is that people are a bit inclined just to explain the story of their favourite comic, etc. This is never my favourite article, but if its a 1940s BATMAN or whatever that I'm very unlikely to have myself, there's some sense to it. But for CEREBRO, it would presumably draw on X-MEN or related material which a) is a limited field & b) most of us own the same comics. I quite see you don't want 92 identical versions of the death of PHOENIX. On the other hand, reviews that told us why a particular issue was good (or indeed, wasn't upto expect--ations) could be interesting. **AS YOU SAY, ANY SYNOPSIS WOULD HAVE TO BE AT A MINIMUM, LEAVING THE ARTICLE CENTRED ON WHAT THE CREATORS DID & AFTER CERTAIN ADJECTIVES RUN OUT THERE WILL BOUND TO BE SOME NIT-PICKING JUST TO FILL COPY - IF NOT FROM THE WRITER, BUT IN THE COMMENTS FROM OTHER MEMBERS WHICH WOULD FOLLOW. HAVE YOU EVER KNOWN COMIC FANS TO AGREE ABOUT WHAT MAKES & IS A 'FAVOURITE' ISSUE ??**

X-PLETIVES - as always, a good read with plenty to think about. Any progress though it is marked by mutterings of 'Yes,yes' & indeed 'no, no'. For the time being, I'll just stick my ear in on the question of DOUG RAMSEY: To mutate or not to mutate ? A bit too late for that, I suppose. If CLAREMONT says he's a mutant, then he is & we're stuck with it. But I wish he weren't a mutant. I would rather see

mutation used only to explain abilities which aren't explicable in 'real universe' terms. Admittedly that ignores the sort of mutations that do happen (usually to vegetables, isn't it ??) in the 'real universe' but it would still leave us with a shortage of mutants in the MARVEL UNIVERSE. To explain all talents (DOUG's linguistic ability, TESSA's eipetic memory) as mutation is to deny such possibilities in baseline humans - & since all of us readers are baseline humans (rash assumption ≠ 1) that's pretty depressing for us. **THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS BASELINE HUMANS - IF THERE WAS WE'D ALL LOOK THE SAME. EVERY 'HUMAN' IS CARRYING SOME GENETIC DIFFERENCE, BOTH INHERITED FROM THE PARENTS & OFTEN THAN NOT WITH A MUTATED TWIST, USUALLY AT A CHEMICAL LEVEL, WHICH MAKES US RATHER MORE INDIVIDUAL THAN WE'D IMAGINED. SLIGHT MUTATIONS AMONGST SLIGHT MUTATIONS DON'T STAND OUT THAT OBVIOUSLY & COLLECTIVELY THEY STAND TO ENHANCE THE GENETIC POOL OF OUR SPECIES. WHEN OBVIOUS DIFFERENCES DO EXIST, THEN THE SUSPECT HAS TO BE REGARD--ED AS A HIGH-LEVEL MUTANT. IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO SEE JUST WHAT KIND OF PARENTS RAMSEY ACTUALLY HAS.**

Finally, hooray for the REPRINT INDEX. A very handy guide.

JEAN ROGERS'84

X-FAN ≠ 546 BREAKDOWNS were just as good as the last time. ≠ 20 was PDG throughout.

If you're interested, here comes a few thoughts on bits picked out from the X-PLETIVES. Re: TOM FARNHILL's letter. I would love to know how TOM defines science eg I'll bet his letter was written with either a ballpoint pen or a typewriter more probably than not, under electric light in a centrally-heated house. I could go on but I think the point is made. Science is afterall only observation of the way the universe has got its act together & the catagor--izing & cataloguing those observations from this we can extrapopulate & theorize & make a lot of real fun discoveries. By his own admission, he claims to be a pervert (lets see him define that); that is as maybe, but he's certainly weird. **I GUESS ITS BACK TO LIVING IN A CAVE, PLUCKING FEATHERS FROM BIRDS FOR QUILLS, DIGGING PIGMENTS FROM THE GROUND & FINDING PEOPLE OF A SIMILAR STYLE TO PASS THE MAIL AROUND FOR TOM.** A point for ANDY KERMAN. If he prefers supernaturally based stories, he should try reading 'REAL MAGIC' by PHILIP BONEWITY to find out there ain't no such thing as 'super-natural'. Statement: This mutant business has held my interest for some time. As I understand it a mutant is (a child, plant, animal) which exhibits genetic characteristics not gained from either parent. If this is the case then I probably qualify as a mutant in as much I have a factor in my blood which prevents my becoming septic in a wound. Neither of my parents have this but my son does (my wife doesn't). So I suppose that makes my son a 2nd generation mutant. Hopefully this handy little quirk could be springing up all over the world & with inter-breeding the whole of mankind could be immune to septic wounds (ain't life wonderful ??). **TO BE ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT YOU ARE A MUTANT, ONE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK BACK ON TWO GENERATIONS REMOVED DOWN THE LINE AT YOUR GRAND & GREAT-GRAND PARENTS & THEIR BROTHERS & SISTERS TO ENSURE THAT ITS NOT A RECESSIVE CHARACTERISTIC NOT RESURFACING. IF THAT HOLDS OUT &, ASSUMING THAT THEY ARE STILL LIVING & CAN'T RECALL ANYBODY IN AN EARLIER GENERATION WITH THE SAME CHARACTERISTIC THEN WE CAN DECLAIR THAT WE HAVE A MUTANT IN OUR MIDST.**

Small point, GEOFF, to comment on IAIN MALLETT's letter - you say PSYCHOMETRY is the power of divining properties of things by mere contact. It is however more widely used for determining the location of someone connected with the object. See the aforementioned book 'REAL MAGIC' for more details. **BUT THAT'S JUST ONE OF ITS APPLICATIONS.** This brings me to another point raised by IAIN. I can't accept that ESPers, to use the current popular term, are mutants. They simply use abilities that we all possess, although in a more suppressed form. Mutation must, I think, be physical in reflection of the fact that it is genes which are altered & they are physical things. **GOOD POINT. HOWEVER WHEREAS IN A REGULAR 'HUMAN' SUCH ESP WOULD TAKE MANY YEARS OF TRAINING TO BRING OUT, AS FOR EXAMPLE WITH MOONDRAGON OR STEPHEN STRANGE, PEOPLE LIKE CHARLES XAVIER OR JEAN GREY ARE SUDDENLY AWARE THAT THEY HAVE THESE ABILITIES NOBODY ELSE HAS AROUND THEM & THE TRAINING IS MORE TO CONTROL THAN TO IMPROVE UPON. IN THAT RESPECT THEY WOULD QUALIFY AS MUTANTS & NOT TRAINED HUMANS.**

To SEAN ROBERTS. I don't think you're a nut because I find I get a lot of life from spiritual awareness; & I'm talking about my spirit. I'm not a religious nut come to that; I'm not religious.

JON CRANE'84

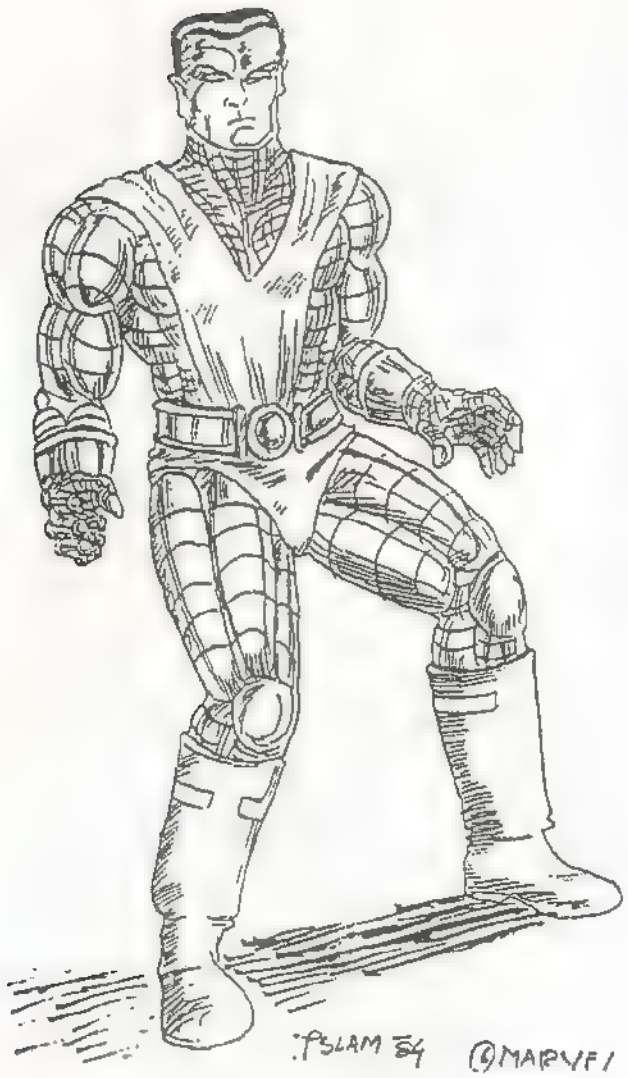
X-FAN ≠ 554 The issue was led off by a beautiful cover by PAUL CHOKRAN. Fan--tastic sense of tension in it. Only thing is, are the NMs standing in a hole ?? If not, perspective is just a bit nut! The new members contain a fair few from MERSEYSIDE. Good news perhaps, that the word is spreading up here. I was surprised to see the death of GUARDIAN treated so lightly.

It almost passed unnoticed bar the OBIT: GUARDIAN by DARREN WHEELER. Then he referred to MAC 'getting the chop'...UGG! You all had a bleeding hearts session over PHOENIX, so how about a bit more thought for the man who flew the flag! And I don't mean a 'Bring Back GUARDIAN Campaign'. The only thing I'm happy about it they are safely back in CANADA. I hissed & compla--ined when BYRNE took the HUDSONS down to AMERICA. Just because he has to live there, doesn't mean they have to! The latest is KILLER SCRAMBLED EGGS vs SHAMAN & if that doesn't make yuu want to check the comic out, nothing will. Come on, X-FANS, forego an issue of KITTY & WOLVERINE & try to give AF another chance!! Re: CEREBRO. A good healthy mix of articles with a heal--thy response to SEAN ROBERTS, which he threatens to respond to! I applaude STEVE WHATLEY's CASE FOR MAGNETO - a character who I have always been interested in. I'd love to see a WHAT IF story based around a world ruled by an enlightened MAGNETO. Interesting!! I now buy the NMs. The art draws me to it, but the story puts me off. The opposite is true to the X-MEN comic unfortunately. Oh well. The NMs was a dull comic, but now holds a little life & a promise of things to come.

A quick sorry to JOHN BYRNE fans about the 'fill in the missing pages' quip. This was NOT a serious comment. I think AF ≠ 6 was a noble artistic experiement & anyone that knows me knows BYRNE is held in fanatic esteem by myself (whew!)

NEAL BURTON-MAPLE MENACE'84

X-FAN ≠ 396 Wow! Its amazing how quickly your attitudes can change. ≠ 20 saw me spouting on about how routine & uninspi--ring the X-MEN are. No more - things have changed. Starting with ≠ 181, strangely enough, was the post-SECRET WARS issue & it appears that the SECRET WARS project managed to stimulate CHRIS CLAREMONT into coming up with some new goodies, helped along by JOHN ROMITA's similarly revitalised art - he is a brilliant stylist but (MR. BYRNE & MR. SIENKIEWICZ take note) style can some--times get in the way of art. ROMITA is very competent & DAN GREEN suits him very well. Then came ≠ 186 - superlatives fail me. LIFEDEATH was a masterpiece - both graphically & in writing. But someone else will no doubt describe it better than I can & I don't want to repeat them, suffice to say that ≠ 186 was beautiful. I also like the idea of focusing on individual X-MEN as long as this doesn't go on far too long & become stifling itself (as in the TEEN TITANS - I gave that up because the comic seemed totally



sterile to me).

Some of the SURVEY results got me thinking. I suppose I'd better start off with the music results since they're so horrifying. From the music stats it appears that 90% of the Club members are aural sponges - the top 4 results are basically pap crap. Listen people - go & listen to music. Search it out. Any kind. Don't just be slaves to RADIO 1 & the pop charts (same thing really) - it'll be worth it. I'm not preaching at you to go & get NEW ORDER records or MARILLION - just search for some--thing that you can appreciate...that moves you. Whether it be BACH or the BEACH BOYS. End of speech.

The least said about ANDERSON & his wanky puppets the better. I thought it was a joke when I first heard of the ANDERSONS - the shows are fun but certainly do not stand up as a viable medium for SF adventure & the expression of ANDERSON's decidedly reactionary views. The only decent puppet shows have been SPITTING IMAGE, THE MUPPETS, MAGIC ROUNDABOUT & the HERB GARDEN. **THE LAST TWO WERE STOP-MOTION ANIMATION, NOT QUITE THE SAME KIND OF THING.**

ANDERSON's attempts to be too realistic & take himself too seriously with the result that his shows are laughable. Ditto STAR TREK - wooden acting, plas--tic plots & cereal packet scenery. There again, what's so good about the 4-colour adventures of a gang of lectard-clad deviants ?? Each to his own, I suppose. **I TEND TO TREAT THEM WITHIN HISTORICAL CONTEXT. WHEN ANDERSON FIRST STARTED HE LED A DIREC--TION AWAY FROM THE PUPPETRY OF ANDY PANDY/BILL & BEN WHICH WAS REVOLUTIONARY. STAR TREK HAS HELD PRETTY WELL, DESPITE BEING FILMED 20 YEARS AGO. ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SPOILED BY WHAT'S CURRENTLY ON TODAY'S TV IN TERMS OF STATE-OF-THE-ART EFFECTS ??**

Onto more important matters now - specifically the arguements about morality & the influence of the comics & other media on children that SEAN'SELF-RIGHTEOUS' ROBERTS stirred up. Research into the effects of 'nasty' videos & related goodies (or baddies ?) has shown that by the time children are 7 years old they are aware that TV programmes are imaginery & that adverts are too - that the purpose of these adverts is to sell products. Children are more sophisticated than SEAN & his ilk (MRS. WHITE--HOUSE ?) would like to think & young people went around imitating JACK THE RIPPER & SHERLOCK HOLMES years before the likes of BATMAN & MAGNUM appeared. It would be very unwise for chil--dren to imitate JESUS as SEAN would probably like them to - thousands would be drowned by trying to walk on water & count--less more would die a lingering death through the laying of hands on lepers to cure them. The worst a DR. STRANGE imitator does is to feel embarrassed if he summons the CRIMSON BANDS OF CYTTORAK to restrain the neigh--bour's dog while the neighbour is looking. You'd better not let STEVE PANKHURST pick the dead--line - if # 22 arrives to coincide with the next RUSH album then we'll have a long time to wait - maybe even till 2112. And as for incredible concerts, I saw ROGER WATERS twice (cries of 'Omigosh!' & from most of the Club members: 'Who's ROGER WATERS ??') which was superb. ERIC CLAPTON (?I think I've heard of him anyway') playing guitars as only he can with the wonderful MEL COLLINS on sax & various other people doing keyboards & bass, etc, all accompanied by videos & a GERALD SCARFE cartoon starring REG THE DOG (a sort of SNOOPY on acid) projected on triple cinema screens the width of the stage - most impressive. I only wish I'd seen BOB DYLAN, too, from what a friend told me -- but I was too idle to get to NEWCASTLE or LONDON to see him.

Art was excellent in # 20 - the REPRINT INDEX cover in particular, which I felt was better than the main cover (although that too was impress--ive). GORDON FOULDS continues in high standard, but watch out GORDON, NEAL BURTON is moving in! NEAL's drawings were superb I thought for a fanzine; part--icularly his OMEGA FLIGHT illo on page 28 & the GUARDIAN illo on page 9. Hope it continues in the same vein - good luck, NEAL, & all the other artists.

One complaint though, the WOLVERINE illo on page 57 was way OTT. You once rejected a semi-humerous piccy by me of WOLVIE killing ROBIN as a 'wee bit too sick' - what was DW's piece then ?? Hardly in good taste was it, was all that blood & pieces of sphinter, ileum & liver flying every--where! Apart from that, #20 was a good issue though.

ADRIAN REYNOLDS'84

THE POINT OF USING THAT ILLO WAS TO ILLUSTRATE AN ARTICLE ON STRONG VIOLENCE. IN MY OPINION ALL DARREN WHEELER'S ILLO SHOWED WAS THAT THE HELLFIRE GOON WAS MADE OF INK SPLATTERS. YOUR WOLVERINE/ROBIN ILLO, BY THE WAY, APART FROM THE 'SICK' RESPONSE WAS THOUGHT LIKELY TO GET THE WRONG KIND OF RESPONSE FROM DC - WHO DO GET VERY TOUCHY ABOUT HOW PEOPLE INTERPRET THEIR CHARACTERS.

X-FAN # 169 A good cover, although PAUL CHOKRAN's rendering of STORM stood out from the rest of the illo. By the way, was that SPIDER-WOMAN in the left foreground or was it just the shading that made her look like she had SPIDER-WOMAN's mask on?? **THE LATTER.** Onto the editorial. This is what I've grown to expect from editorials. A story with a moral along the lines of what JIM STERANKO does in PREVUE or KERRY O'QUINN in STARLOG. Anyway, I liked it. On the NMs, I stopped buying it after # 8 because I wasn't very happy with the art done by McLEOD/BUSCEMA. But on my second reading of these 8 issues I changed my view on the art & am now sorry that McLEOD/BUSCEMA have left since I was too harsh on their art in the first place.**ISN'T HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE WONDERFUL ??** I have noticed the very striking covers of the DEFEN--DERS comic lately but was stopped by my budget from buying issues. But after reading the DEFENDERS article I'll miss a meal & buy a copy or 2.

Can't say I was very touched by the way JOHN BYRNE (even if I do like the comic) knocked off GUARDIAN. I wonder if CHRIS CLAREMONT would have done it any better ??

On the SURVEY. Why the question about BERNARD BRESSLAW ?? I think JON PERTWEE came top as DR.WHO because for most of the Club members (whose average age is 20) he was the first DOCTOR they came in contact with on TV (well, it was in my case. Oh give me the good old days of JO GRANT, the BRIGADIER, BESSIE & the trusty sonic screwdriver. Who needs cricket balls ?) How would the kids imitate CAPTAIN SCARLET ?? I don't understand.

IN THE SAME WAY SOME KIDS THOUGHT THAT THEY WERE BATMAN & TRIED SWINGING OUT THE WINDOW ON A ROPE. PLAYING CAPTAIN SCARLET MEANT THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE ROPE....I MEAN, THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE ALSO INDESTRUCTIBLE.

I enjoyed the game playing report. How about the next game report as a strip in CEREBRO ?? Didn't like the ending though. What happened ?? Do I refer to X-MEN ≠ 137 ??
HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL A NUMBER OF MOVES HAVE BEEN MADE TO MAKE UP A DECENT SIZED INSTALLMENT. ITS CURRENT STATUS SHOWS CYCLOPS MADE THE WRONG DECISIONS. One thing that ruined ≠ 20 from being (in my opinion) the best issue so far was the awful paste-up job. Was this the printers fault or the editor's, GEOFF ?? Anyway, as LORRAINE GOODISON said, I still liked it, but it could have been so much better.

MARK MAGGOTT'84

THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THE TYPEWRITER RIBBONS DIDN'T STAY BLACK ENOUGH LONG ENOUGH & OUR PRINTERS COMPENSATED ON THE PLATE BY DARKENING THE TONE WHICH RAISED THE BLUE LINES. ITS A LITTLE TOO LATE AFTER EVERYTHING GETS PRINTED TO DO ANY--THING ABOUT IT. HAVE TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS THIS TIME. PASTING, BY THE WAY, IS USUALLY RESTICTED TO THE ILLOS ONLY.

X-FAN ≠ 470 Believe it or not, I only got around to reading ≠ 20 yesterday. Frankly, I think I needed a break from the whole comics scene for a while & it seems to have worked - in the sense that I now look forward to the few comics I still collect & I had enough enthusiasm to read almost all of ≠ 20 in one sitting. It seems to me that it is quite possible to keep in touch with & enjoy comics' fandom without actually reading comics anymore - not that this is what I intend to do. Its just that it struck me that ≠ 20, for instance, had enough generally-based articles (not to mention some highly interesting letters) to attract the lapsed comic collector as well as current fanatics eg THE X-CERTIFICATE-MAN, the HISTORY OF ABSURD MUTANTS & all those replies to SEAN ROBERTS. And yet there were at the same time very many 'cogs & nuts' articles (as you put it in reply to ROSS COWIN), ROSS, by the way, seemed to find more in ≠ 19 to interest him than he first thought, judging by the rest of his letter.

Anyway, with something the size of CEREBROm I reckon I've got good value for money, if only relatively few of the articles prove interesting to me personally.

DAVE GARLAND'84

X-FAN ≠ 568 I certainly did like ≠ 20 - what may surprise you is that I was surprised to find such an organisation as the X-MEN FAN CLUB existed. I knew that there were many people countrywide into comics due to my experience of the comics fanzines - but an X-MEN FAN CLUB, I was delighted.

I particularly liked the X-MEN related articles, especi--ally the CASE FOR MAGNETO & XAVIER VS FROST. The MARVEL UNIVERSE HANDBOOK DATA BREAKDOWNS held little interest for me - I like to build my own pictures of a character's powers (if you know what that means).

GRAHAM TROAKE'84

X-FAN ≠ 76 On the visual side, there was some good stuff from JOSE DAV (Pretentious ?? Moi ??), PETE MARTIN, TONY PLEWS & PAUL CHOKRAN. Prize of the issue MUST go to the latter for his drawing of KITTY & LOCKHEED on page 41.

SURVEY made quite good reading. The most interesting point for me was that around a third of the Club's TOTAL membership read independent comics. That's quite impressive, especially considering that you can only get those comics through specialist outlets. It might have been interesting to see which of these comics does the best amongst the members - everyone I've met seems to love a different favourite (Mine being: AMERICAN FLAGG, SOMERSET HOLMES & MARS). I think your views about DC being considerably less appealing than other comics, GEOFF, are quite correct. Only TEEN TITANS & SWAMP THING have any appeal to me at the moment. DC just don't seem to have any idea of what they're about. PAUL HAYWARD's letter raised a good point about the plots of your average comic being a bit silly to non-comic readers. I myself came to this conclusion around a year ago but was comforted by the fact that the same may be said about many/most of the TV programmes that our would-be critics watch. Furthermore, many books which are read by millions are equally pathetic when one comes to analyse them. The lesson to be learn from all this is that 99% (or more) of books, comics, films, music & TV programmes can be analysed to the point where we can convince ourselves they're rubbish. But what's the point ?? If we find them entertaining, why tear them apart ?? As long as we KNOW they're not perfect, then surely that's enough. If we DO decide to analyse the bollocks off stuff we've previously found enjoyable (in response to the imagined pressure from non-comic readers & even other fans) & THEN decide to reject the majority of them, surely that's our loss NOT our gain. But to my mind, it is non-comic readers who are the real losers - their petty prejudices preventing them from giving comics a fair crack of the whip, even though many

of these folk will quite happily sit down & watch such inane garbage as AUTOMAN, THE DUKES OF HAZZARD & THE BIONIC MAN.

The UNTOLD SELF-RIGHTEOUS X-MEN also made quite interes--ting reading. I must admit that I didn't realize there was such drastic changes in the dialogue from X-MEN ≠ 137 & the PHOENIX tale, but now MR. THOMPSON comes to mention it, the latter did have a different 'feel' about it & not JUST for the altered ending.

I disagree with DONALD though about whether or not the PHOENIX things should have been published. I think there was quite a lot of interest/curiousity over what the first version of ≠ 137 was like & I for one was quite pleased to see it published. There was also, I believe, a need to explain to all the people who felt cheated by JEAN's death, that it was necess--ary & not just something CHRIS CLAREMONT thought would be a neat twist. In this respect, I think the UNTOLD STORY showed very well just how ridiculous her survival would have been - it would have been too pat. PSI WARS by PETER ALTOFT seemed like a follow-up to part of my PROJECT: WIDEAWAKE article. Was this the case, GEOFF?? **NOT INTENTIONALLY.** Nice article anyway. Well written...I don't know about you, but it worries me that these Governments are taking such a keen interest in PSI powers at the moment. It MUST mean there's SOMETHING in it & if there is, then God knows where it will lead! It could have VERY sinister consequences. Strangely, the best article for me was also amongst the shortest. It was BETWIXT & BETWEEN by LORRAINE GOODISON - lady after my own heart obviously. **ONLY IF ITS COOKED.LORRI DOESN'T LIKE RAW FLESH.** Her piece about criticism was right on the button. Criticism is the world's easiest occupation, especially if one neglects to provide any decent explain--ation of one's views OR any advice on how to do better (maybe because these people are incapable of doing better themselves!). Lets at least have CONSTRUCTIVE criticism, folks!

And finally, the NMs: You asked for comments on various aspects of this comic so I'll take them in the order you raised them. Firstly, is the arrival of BILL SIENKIEWCZ heralding a change of direction on the book ? I reckoned it MUST have occured to MARVEL that swapping BILL for SAL BUSCEMA would inevitably lead to at least a different feel to the book. Whether or not they intended to revamp it like THOR is questionable but they DID run rather prominent adverts prior to the change that seemed to suggest they WERE doing new things with it.

However, I do know for sure that CLAREMONT had every intention of doing something different when he realized BILL was to join the book. This being

because I was talking about just this subject with former X-MEN editor LOUISE SIMONSON up in BIRMINGHAM a few months ago. She told me that CLAREMONT had been kind of 'treading water' whilst SAL BUSCEMA was on the book storywise. When SIENKIEWICZ with his amazing visuals arrived how--ever, it was the chance he'd been waiting for - out came all the ideas he's been sitting on for so long...& presto, we have a great comic to read.

Your second point, GEOFF, was on whether or not the NMs should suddenly be mentioned in the same breath as the likes of MILLER's DAREDEVIL & SIMONSON's THOR. Quite frankly, as comics, NMs & THOR aren't even in the same league as DAREDEVIL (& that's from a fan of all 3 titles). However, saleswise, they are probably pretty similar (Does anybody actually know how many they did/do sell, by the way ??). My question would be : Do they really deserve such astronomical sales - & prices, natch. I really think people have gone a bit over the top in this area for THOR & NMs. Oh yeah, sure, they're good (VERY good, in fact) comics but do they REALLY warrant the kind of frantic activity on the market that THOR got ?? In my view, a lot of this hysteria (& that's the only word for it) resulted from hordes of idiots either trying to make a quick killing on a good comic or just joining the bandwagon like a bunch of demented lemmings! I know of one kid (about 12 years old) who hadn't the slightest interest in the NMs until he heard that it was a hot property. He promptly rushed off to but it. So, you can blame these plonkers for the inflated prices you see at the Marts next time.

STEVE WHATLEY'84

AFTER SEEING HOW PRICES ON DD SOARED IT HAS TO BE THE LEMMING EFFECT BANDWAGON WANTING TO BUY BEFORE THE PRICES ROSE TOO STEEPLY. SHALL WE START THE RUMOUR AT JUST WHAT PEOPLE ARE MISSING ABOUT POWER PACK AT PRESENT IN TERMS OF ITS RATHER UNIQUE QUALITIES.

X-FAN ≠ 146 Nice to see that you added more article pages to compen--sate for the lack of a real index. Or were you going to anyway ? As to the cover, I don't really like PAUL's artwork. Oh, there's nothing wrong with it, it just doesn't appeal to me. The inside illos seemed a little disappointing this time around, due no doubt to the number of collabor--ations, most of which didn't quite gel. Enough of this griping. Plenty of interesting articles within which should produce reactions from EVERYONE. The postal game account was rivetting. While CHRIS BUTLER's piece put forward remarks which I can wholeheartedly agree with. The X-MANSION must be like a LONDON underground carriage by now & CLARE--MONT is ignoring interesting poss--ibilities of conversations between members of all the groups. Where indeed are TEAM AMERICA ?? CC is beginning to lose his grip on reality, methinks eg I don't care if FORGE is a genius with an IQ of 1000 or whatever, but no-one could create a gun to neutrallise anybody's super-powers. If it were created to be used on one specific power it may be possible. But anybody's ?? How the hell would it work ?? Can this humble being suggest 1 or 2 things?? Please drop the BIRTHDATES, as no doubt they're laborious to type out & I doubt anyone looks through them. Next suggestion is how about selling comic bags as part of the Club offers? Members who don't live near comic shops may not be able to get them as its a lot easier to get comics postally than bags. And I know you you're sick of hearing about them, but how about sorting this Club strip out as soon as possible,OK ?? OK, one final thing. Many members don't get other fanzines, so how about printing Mart & Convention news ??

BIRTHDATES ARE EASY TO DO THESE DAYS, I MERELY HAVE TO PRESS A BUTTON. COMIC BAGS - A COUPLE OF ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE OFFER GOOD TERMS ON THEM. AS TO MART & CONVENTION NEWS, THE AD SPACE IN STARBURST IS JUST AS UP-TO-DATE ANYWAY. I thought the SECRET WARS was bad until I took a gander at DC's retaliation in the local comic vendor's niche (CARDIFF, at hhe ANTIQUE MART, folks!). I notice that COLOSSUS was put out of action immediately - he always comes off worst. A thought passes my small mind that its due to the fact that an American comic is showing the children that RUSSIANS are weak & simple. Yeah, ludicrous thought, right ??

Finally, many thanks to everyone on the OUTING for such an enjoyable time. Also congratulations to your fearless deputy leader, she handled us all well. If anything, this year's OUTING was less formal & tiring than previous ones, so I'd call it a success.

One final thing, this poor frustrated scriptwriter is in search of artists willing to take on projects large & small. A plea from the heart indeed!

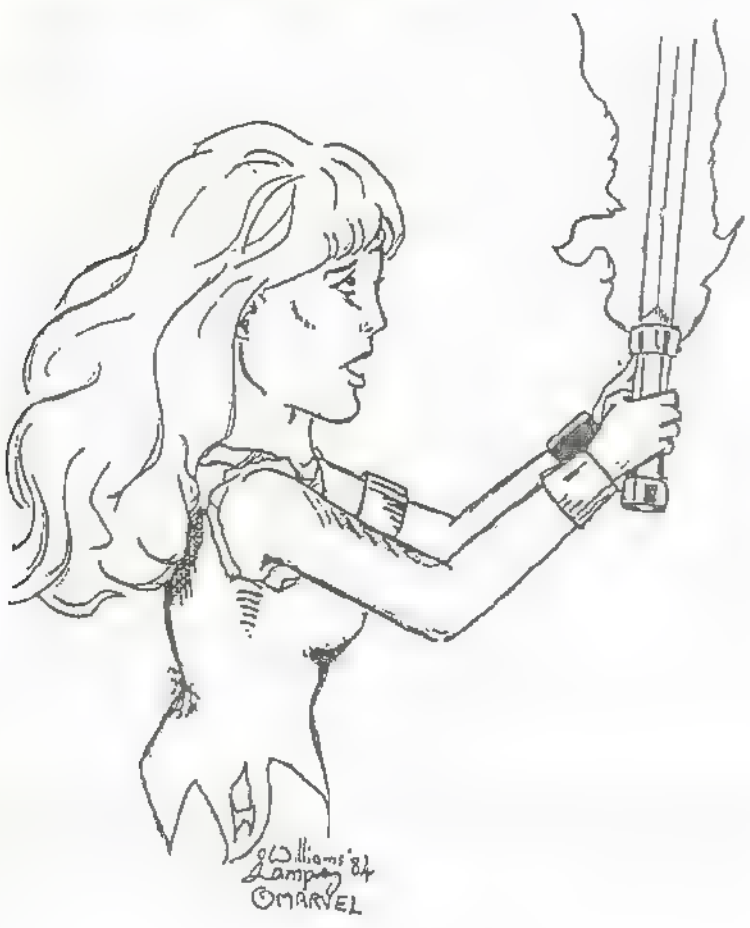
SEAN ROBERTS'84

GLENVIEW, CEFN MAUR WOOD, MONKSWOOD, Nr USK, GWENT

X-FAN ≠ 444 All in all, ≠ 20 was (& I quote) 'Pretty damn good'. I wasn't too keen on the cover but the rest made up for it. Firstly, its'nice'to see that sod's law has struck again...Just as I'm about to renew the Club, the sub rates go up again. **WELL, NOT SO MUCH GO UP, YOU JUST GET A LITTLE LESS FOR THE SAME MONEY.**

I can't wait to see the reaction to the news of the animated version of ALPHA FLIGHT. Will GUARDIAN be in it ?? **I SAW A COVER OF THE AMERICAN 'VARIETY' & THE NEWS IS ON THE COVER WITH THE PICTURE FROM THE COVER OF AF ≠ 11. KNOWING OUR LUCK, THE ANIMATORS PROBABLY THINK OMEGA FLIGHT IS ALPHA FLIGHT.** Nice to see the results of the SURVEY. Hopefully, the 'powers that be' will take notice of them. From this, the question arises does CLAREMONT & Co read CEREBRO ?? **WELL, CHRIS IS ALWAYS SENT A COPY. LIKEWISE WHOEVER IS CURRENTLY EDITING THE X-MEN (HELLO WEEZIE! HELLO ANN!), JIM SHOOTER & ON OCCASIONS, JOHN BYRNE & WHOEVER IS DRAWING THE X-MEN. I THINK SOME NOTICE IS TAKEN, SINCE WE WERE RECENTLY PUT ON THE ADVANCED NEWS DETAIL WITHOUT ASKING**

What's all the fuss about AF≠ 13 ?? True, there's hardly any dialogue, but as I mentioned on the OUTING, FRANK MILLER's been doing things like that for years &



got nothing but praise.
Speaking of the OUTING, I'd like to thank everybody concerned for a very enjoyable day & I hope to see 'the inner circle' again, next year.

DANNY QUINN'84

X-FAN ≠ 575 here! You wanted to know that I thought of ≠ 20, my first issue. Well, it was pretty much as expected. I don't want to say too much after reading just one issue, cos I'll probably just end up trying to raise points you've already flagged to death months back. **GOOD EXCUSE TO INVEST IN SOME BACK ISSUES.**

I was a bit dismayed to see that, as in the X-MEN itself, everyone was still talking about the death of PHOENIX - analysing & reanalysing it - & performing yet more autopsies on her. It did happen over 5 years ago. You'd think everyone would have exhaust--ed most arguements on it by now. JEAN GREY is dead & CHRIS CLAREMONT doesn't seem likely to reincarnate her after all this time (although the plotline with RACHEL will be interesting, as coming from a different past & considering her mind-powers, it seems likely she's SCOTT & JEAN's daughter, rather than MADELYNE's (Christ! You've got me at it now!). Personally, I'm not really interested in it, as my own back copies don't go back that far (just before that, the prices seem to rise sharply).

Also, a lot of the other stuff seemed to be on issues that I haven't got - just bad luck I think. I wasn't really interested in all the articles about morality, etc either. I don't think I've heard anything that hasn't been said before, frequently. It was all quite interesting though. The artwork was excellent. More jokes please, if possible.

CRAEME SARSON'84

X-FAN ≠ 103 Just as well I drew the vampire like that as opposed to the CHRIS LEE version, as that was the type the vampire article described. The article itself was good because it got away from the X-MEN for a bit. The rest of ≠ 20 that I have read upto now has been interesting enough, especá--ally the article on one of my fave 'nasty guys':MAGNETO. For some reason I didn't read X-MEN ≠ 150, but then its quite poss--ible my dealer didn't send it.

A few interesting points raised in the SURVEY such as what TV series the members would like to see repeated. I'd personally like to see LAND OF THE GIANTS & TIME TUNNEL - juvenile I know, but there you are. I recently wrote to CHANNEL 4 asking if there was any chance of seeing whether any of those shows were being repeated. They are, after all, in colour & have not been shown for at least 10 years which seems to fit into the CHANNEL 4 category. I got a reply, too, saying that they had no plans to show either shows but my letter would be passed on for consider--ation. So I didn't totally waste my time & they sent me a '4' newsheet into the bargain. If you do wish to write to them, asking about these or any of your faves, the address is : - CHANNEL 4 TV, 60 CHARLOTTE ST, LONDON W1P 2AX. You may not get any results but at least you could jog their memories to some of those well-missed shows. CEREBRO is still going strong, but I do think you should try & move into other areas. I've said that many times before I know, but I'm going to keep on saying it. You have been doing this to a certain extent. My fave is still ≠ 12 that had articles on the TEEN TITANS & DOOM PATROL. I thought you did a brave thing there, but with the last couple issues we seem to be getting back to the all-X-MEN material. It can get quite boring. **ARE WE ?? THERE HAS BEEN A LOT TO DISCUSS JUST FROM THE X-MEN COMICS OF LATE TOO. BIG QUESTION: DO OTHER FAN--ZINES, WHO ARE REPUTEDLY SUPPOSED TO HAVE A WIDER SPECTRUM, PRODUCE WHAT YOU WANT ?? COMMENTS ??**

The same goes for the covers. None of them have been badly drawn but I think its time for something fresh. ≠ 19, for example, had only 2 X-MEN on its cover as opposed to the full team. Wouldn't it be nice to have just ONE X-MAN on the cover for a change & somebody other than WOLVE--RINE, such as COLOSSUS or the BEAST - old or new. Can you see the point I'm try--ing to make. Try to break the format once in a while. People don't want CEREBRO to change, but you've got to keep things fresh. **WITH ≠ 17 & 18 ACTUALLY SINCE NEITHER COVER FEATURED AN X-MEN ON THE COVER.**

Having said all that, the REPRINT INDEX was a nice change. The cover was good because it showed the old team, who I don't think have ever been on the front cover - as a team or separately.

GORDON FOULDS'84

X-FAN ≠ 572 I thought ≠ 20 was great. Great art. Great features & the overall look of a well-planned out zine. I have previously bought ≠ 17 & 18 & you seem to be improving with every issue.

CHRIS MATTHEWS'84

X-FAN ≠ 542 Thanks a lot for ≠ 20. Superb, man! Best since ≠ 16 I think.

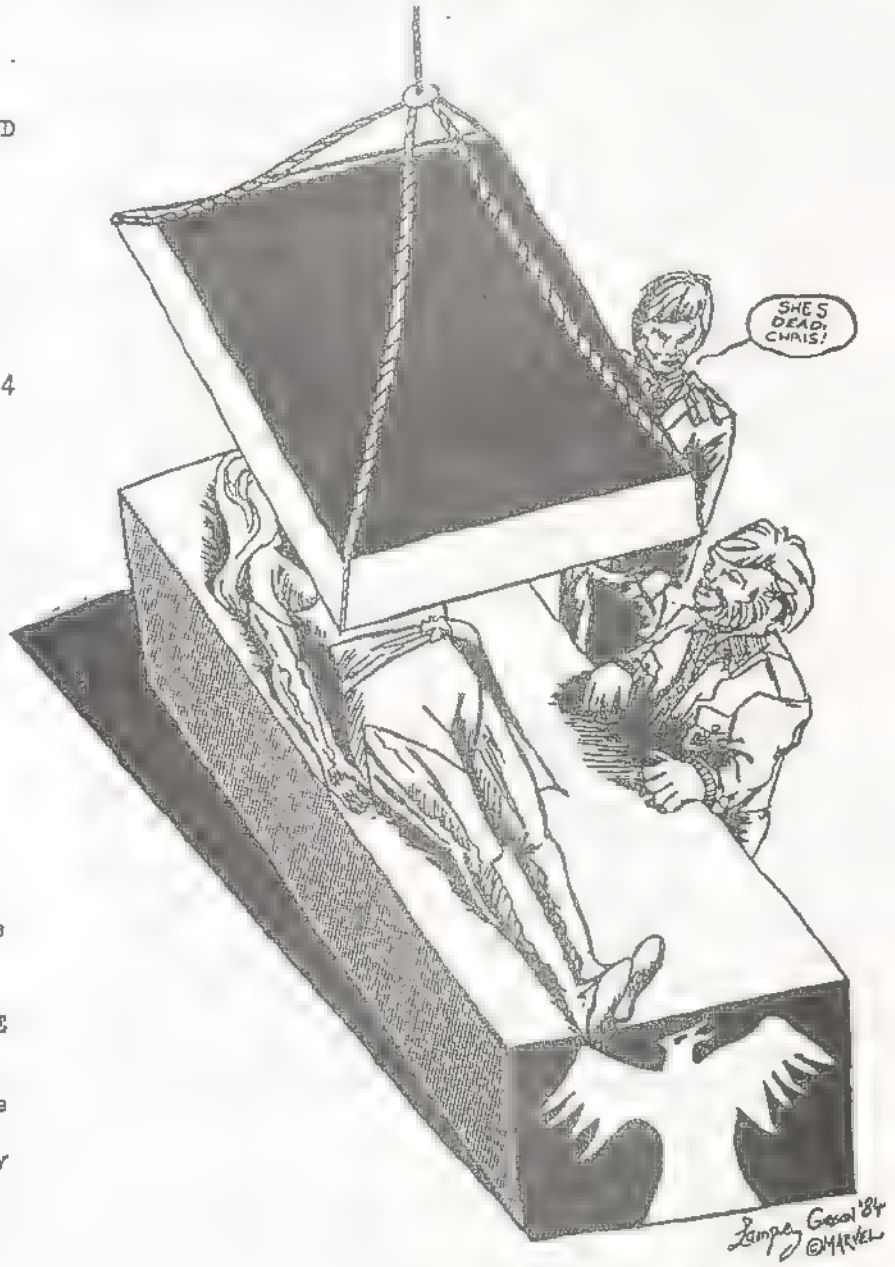
Apart from their 20% price increase, comics seem to be quite good at the moment. SIENKIEWICZ' NMs is great, as is SIMONSON's THOR. NEW DEFENDERS, POWER PACK & the LSH are also good at the moment. **CAN SOMEONE DEFINE FOR ME THE ADJECTIVE 'GOOD' PLEASE. LETS HAVE SOME SPECIFICS, FOLKS.**

BYRNE seems to have made ALPHA FLIGHT into a non-team - they only meet every 12th issue & at funnerals otherwise, they do their own thing or in pairs. Trouble is, his non-team image has none of the fun the OLD DEFENDERS had. I still enjoy the X-MEN & I think ≠ 186 after detailed reading was a good issue. But how did RACHEL manage to arrive in 1984 ?? Last time she could only send someone else (KATE) & that 'someone' was only someone's consciousness made dominant over an earlier consciousness. This time she's bought herself, too. I wonder how ?? **HAVING FOUND THE ERA ONCE PIN-POINTED THE DIRECTION TO TAKE. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN UNWISE TO SEND ANY OF THE OTHER MUTANTS BACK IN TIME & FIND THEM--SELVES CONFRONTING THENSELVES PHYSICALLY. AS RACHEL HAS NO COUNTERPART IN OUR TIME SHE COULD AFFORD THE RISK OF GOING BACK PHYSICALLY HERSELF.** The only bit in ≠ 20 I did not enjoy was the profusion of articles on VIOLENCE IN COMICS. Isn't that kind of thing best left to the LoC?? **I THOUGHT NOT. A LONG ARGUEMENT OF THIS SORT SHOULD REALLY HAVE A SOUNDING BASE OUT FROM AN ARTICLE & THEN DISCUSSED THROUGH THE X-PLETIVES. IN THIS INSTANCE HOWEVER, THE RESPONSE WAS BOTH GREAT & DIVERSE TO ALLOW MORE ARTICLES COVERING THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS UNCOVERED.**

I must admit that I had never thought of the subject in those terms until I read ≠ 19's article. I rarely read SPIDER-MAN & most of the big villains I know will be back in the future, usually in as good or better condition as before - even though their operators or reasons to fight may have changed (vis the SENTINELS). **REMIND ME TO INTRODUCE YOU TO SILVERMANE SOMETIME. SEAN'S ORIGINAL ARTICLE DID CENTRE ON THE NON-SUPER-POWERED THIEVES ACTUALLY AS OPPOSED TO THE SUPER-VILLAINS**

The SURVEY was great. There were only 2 questions which displeased - ≠ 12 & 13 on DAVAN SHAKARI & DRAGONFLY. I'm sure I'm not the only member who's only been reading X-MEN for ± 3 years & only collecting back issues for about a year. When I filled in the SURVEY my back issues collection only went back as far as ≠ 129, so how could I be expected to know about the two of them. (Now my collection reaches down to ≠ 107, so I know who DAVAN SHAKARI is). **IT MIGHT BE TRUE OF SEVERAL CLUB MEMBERS, BUT TO US OLD-TIMERS ITS A RELEVANT QUESTION.**

The XAVIER VS FROST article was excellent because it gave no thought to what the two of them use 'their' mutants for. Incidentally, when ILLYANA & DANI went into the future in NM ≠ 17, did they create or go into an



alternative future, do you know. Or did we see a glimse of what is to happen ?? **BECAUSE THEY STEPPED OUT OF OUR REGULAR 'REALITY', THEY HAD NO EFFECT ON THE EVENTS THAT HAPPENED & SO APPEARED IN ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE REALITY.** Great SANDY - ANGEL & CANDY illo. What's wrong?? Has somebody called WHITEHOUSE complained ?? Secondly, ALAN THOMAS thinks the CCA symbol has left MARVEL books. Well, ALAN, its not on the books distributed in the UK. However, if you see a comic bought on import is one whith would have been distributed Stateside, the CCA stamp is there. I had the same question myself. Third, I would love to buy a complete X-INDEX - perhaps it could be completely revised for X-MEN ≠ 200 & be put into one book. Very finally, if I had ABSOLUTE POWER, I would provide my grandparents with enough money to do what they wanted & enjoy the--mselves. Then I'd leave Earth. Make it as if had never been (like MAGNUS did for SPIDER-WOMAN in AVENGERS ≠ 249). I would go to the moon & go into an alternative reality where comics are real. I would join the X-MEN as a mutant (shape-changer perhaps) & lose my ABSOLUTE POWER & live my life there. Well ??

ANDY BERMAN'84

IT MIGHT COME AS A SURPRISE TO YOU, ANDY, BUT COMICS ARE REAL HERE TOO. I'D HAVE GREAT PROBLEMS BUYING IMAGINERY BOOKS. WHY THE DESIRE TO A BE A 'HERO' - DO YOU LIKE GETTING BRUISES & RISKING YOUR LIFE ??

X-FAN ≠ 182 How do you decide which illo to put with an article ?? X-PLETIVES are the perfect place to use a lot of illos, but what about when you want to include an illo with an article of common interest eg a picture of CYCLOPS with an article on beam weapons ?? Do you phone artists & ask for pictures ?? If so, why do you leave it so late?? I understand that DAVE (JOSE) ROACH got a call to draw a picture of ALL the MARVEL GODS for the GODS OF LIGHT article with only a day or so to go before the issue went to the printers. Perhaps an art editor might be useful here, a person to stay in the know about who's espec--ially good at drawing what & who you could call when you wanted a special picture. He/she would then get in touch with an artist. It would take some of the pressure off you, GEOFF, & let you get on with layout, paste-up & typing. **NOT TO MENTION CURSING COS THE INSTRUCTIONS GET THE WRONG RESULTS. CEREBRO ALREADY HAPPENS TO HAVE AN ART EDITOR OF SORTS WHO I'VE HAD NO COMPLAINT FROM. I'M SURE IT MUST HAVE SLIPPED DAVE'S MIND BUT I ASKED HIM A MONTH EARLIER TO DRAW THAT PARTICULAR ILLO & THE SECOND CALL WAS MUCH CLOSER TO THE DEADLINE WHEN IT DIDN'T TURN UP.

GENERALLY, ANY OF THE ARTIST POOL I REQUEST A SPECIAL ILLO FROM GET AT LEAST A MONTH, A BRIEF ON WHAT THE ILLO SHOULD CONTAIN & HOW MUCH SPACE THEY HAVE TO DRAW IN - JUST LIKE IN THE REAL MAGAZINES.** Don't you think expecting a Club member who wants to advertise his or her fanzine in CEREBRO to pay at least £4.50 for the privilage is a bit much, let alone £16.00 for a full page ad ?? The only ads in ≠ 20, other than your ad for chess pieces, were one full page ad from AGAR COMICS & another full page ad from FALCON GAME & PRODUCTS, who I assume can afford to spend £16.00 without it making too large a dent in their finances. I would not imagine this to be the case for most producers of fanzines, especially for the first issue of such a zine, which could do with all the publicity it might get. **IF ENOUGH OF THE MEMBERSHIP WANT ME TO RUN THROUGH THIS PROPERLY SOME--TIME I WILL. FOR NOW THOUGH, THE AD PRICES ARE BASED OFF HOW MUCH IT COSTS TO PRINT CEREBRO. EVERY PAGE OF ADVERTISING SOLD MEANS ANOTHER SIDE FOR AN ARTICLE, ETC. THE ADVERTISER PAYS FOR THE USE OF A PAGE TO PUT IN WHAT THEY WANT TO PUT IN, PROVIDING THAT IT IS IN GOOD TASTE OR AT LEAST NOT LIKELY TO OFFEND OR CAUSE CEREBRO TO BE BANNED. IF YOU RE-READ THE ADVERTISING COLUMN ON PAGE 2, YOU'LL ALSO NOTICE THAT ADS BELOW ¾ PAGE FOR CLUB MEMBERS ARE FOR FREE ANYWAY. SINCE, SO I'VE BEEN TOLD, THAT MEMBERS READ CEREBRO FROM COVER TO COVER SEVERAL TIMES, ANY AD GETS MAXIMUM EXPOSURE.**

It may seem from what I have written that all I can do is criti--cise your work & belittle your efforts, but I feel a need to write because I care. Rather than let the Club & the zine stagnate in a pool of its own complacency, I'd like to see it moving again. These are just my thoughts on how this could be accomplished. At least someone does care! **MEANING THAT I DON'T ?? FROM THE ABOVE IDEA, I GUESS YOU CAN START HAPPILY FROM FINANCIAL RUIN ??**

One of the nice things about CEREBRO is that it prints critical letters as well as complimentary ones. PETER POOLE's letter in ≠20, for example, & that open letter to CC about his Scottish cock-ups. How much notice do you take of letters such as PETER's ?? What notice CHRIS takes of criticism directed at him seems slight! Do you take it all as being part of an X-MEN BACKLASH against a title that everyone used to consider the best there is ??

Perhaps I'm part of that backlash - if so, it isn't just because a lot of other people seem to be finding fault with the X-MEN about now. I've started to judge comics with the same kind of eye that I turn on books to be studied. You may think that wrong, but both comics & books are forms of literature, fiction, story--telling & the fellows producing both are getting paid for it, so why shouldn't they be expected to do their best ??

SIMON JOWETT'84

I THINK ITS A MISTAKE TO PUT BOOKS & COMICS ON THE SAME PEDESTAL. ON A TIME-TO-TIME BASIS, A BOOK FROM INCEPTION CAN TAKE ANYTHING FROM 6 MONTHS TO 25 (OR MORE) YEARS TO PREPARE. A COMIC BOOK WRITER IS EXPECTED, ON AVERAGE, TO YIELD 60 PAGES (THE EQUIVALENT OF 3 COMICS) A MONTH - THIS INCLUDES FINDING SOME UNUSUAL SLANT/IDEA TO PLOT CONSTANTLY. IN THAT RESPECT, YOU CAN'T COMPARE THEM. WHO'S TO SAY WHO IS MORE CREATIVE ?? EVEN WRITERS LIKE ELLISON WHO BRIDGE BOTH FIELDS ONLY DO THE ODD COMIC STORY & NOT ON A REGULAR BASIS.

X-FAN ≠ 393 I'll start with the criticism the MARVEL UNIVERSE HANDBOOK received, which I found totally unwarranted. There just HAS to be a set of rules governing MARVEL EARTH as regards power, speed, etc or otherwise you would end up with DAREDEVIL beating the HULK in a fight.

I found the PRESS WEIGHT BREAKDOWNS in ≠ 19 & 20 fascinating & thought it was a good idea to have a chart in a future CEREBRO showing objects that weigh 90 tons or whatever & bringing them along side the MARVEL CHARACTERS who can lift them.

Just one fault from the press-weights was that of IRON MAN. It stated in the HANDBOOK that he can lift 90 tons when he so desires by channeling all of his armour's energy for that specific purpose. Indeed, I found it almost unbelievable that he was so low on the table at 11 tons. He is regarded, along with THOR, as one of the AVENGERS strongest members as he has knocked the HULK unconscious before (≠ 131-132 of his own book) by siphoning all of his suit's energy into one punch. In a SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL he is up there with the heavy--weights: THOR, HULK, THING, etc. **THERE'S A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ABLE TO PUNCH SOMEBODY OUT & LIFTING HEAVY WEIGHTS. ALTHOUGH THE IRON MAN ARMOUR IS CAPABLE OF LIFTING A HEAVIER WEIGHT FOR A BRIEF TIME, HE WOULD DO IT AT RISK TO HIS OWN SAFETY & HENCE ONLY WHAT HE IS ONLY NORMALLY CAPABLE OF WAS SHOWN. FOR A REGULAR HUMAN IN ARMOUR, NEXT TO THOR HE DOES APPEAR AS ONE OF THE STRONGEST IN THE USUAL LINE-UP, BUT HE'S BY NO MEANS AS STRONG.**

I disagree with ROBERT NOTT's letter about organised religion being intolerant of other beliefs. Again the fault lies with Man, for be a person CHRISTIAN, MOSLEM or JEW, they are basically worshipping one God. Although I didn't agree with SEAN ROBERTS' article about comics, I think he has a valid point about censorship. I would go along with a form of censorship which put the brake on some of the excesses in other types of entertain--ment (TV, video, magazines, etc) if only to protect children.

I can't understand the apparent dislike of JOHN ROMITA. His art is far superior to DAVE COCKRUM's (I always thought his version of STORM was awful - he couldn't get the body proportions right) & even better than SMITH's, which I thought was too simple at times. Anyway, to close on a couple of short views. I'm against XAVIER going on missions with the team after regaining the use of his legs. It just doesn't seem right somehow. I've given up reading the NMs, they're boring. And if the X-MEN were turned into a cartoon series, I'i give them up too. One last word on the HANDBOOK. If MARVEL pursue the line shown in a recent SECRET WARS issue which has IRON MAN & HULK holding up a virtual mountain - impossibly beyond their combined press-weights, they might as well throw the whole idea of the HANDBOOK out of the window.

COLIN TOUGH'84

AS WAS SHOWN, IRON MAN BLASTED A HOLE, PRESUMABLY UP INTO BEDROCK & ALL THE HULK HAD TO DO WAS SUPPORT THE STRUCTURE, SO ALTHOUGH HEAVY WAS NOT THE ENTIRE MOUNTAIN.

X-FAN ≠ 562 I only have 2 issues of CEREBRO to my name but I would like to put forward my impressions so far. The DATA BREAKDOWNS are great, but are you sure that SUNSPOT can only lift 2.5 tons ?? **SUNSPOT IS STILL ONLY A YOUNG--STER ? HE HASN'T REACHED HIS FULL POTENTIAL YET.**

My main complaint is about the lact of NMs art. They're not that bad! personally, I like JOHN ROMITA Jr & think that HUTCH GUICE should stick to the MICRONAUTS. And wasn't the X-MEN/MICRONAUTS MINI-SERIES boring! Who could not guess that GUARDIAN was going to kick the bucket ?? No other members of AF are developed enough (characterwise) to have died as they would not leave much of a gap missing in the team. In answer to the question on page 33 (≠ 20): ' 'Who says that JOHN BYRNE needs WOLVERINE ??' I think that JOHN BYRNE would. He obviously likes having a character who tears people apart so much that when he left the X-MEN he made a cheap version of WOLVIE, namely WILDCHILD.

I liked the BLUE SIDE OF THE MOON. It was more like I would have expected the fight in ≠ 137 to turn out. How could SMASHER keep going after an optic blast in the face??

DAVID WEST'84

LIKE HIS LSH EQUIVALENT, SMASHER PROBABLY SWITCHED TO ULTRA INVULNERABILITY.

X-FAN ≠ 474 Well, its taken me 4 issues, but here is my first (of many, hopefully) letters to X-PLETIVES. I loved ≠ 20 - from the cover to the back page it was brilliant. The SURVEY was informative but none of the answers came as a surprise to me. The articles on VAMPIRISM, MAGNETO & MICROVERSE were inter--esting & I loved the cartoons on pages 38, 13, 42 & 47. I also enjoyed reading BLUE SIDE OF THE MOON - which is strange because I think playing RPGs gets boring after a while. My only criticism is the DATE BREAKDOWNS. They bored me when they had characters I knew, but what was the point of wasting space on ETERNALS & DEVIANTS which probably have never been heard of by most of the Club ?? **WELL, THEY'VE APPEARED MOST RECENTLY IN THE AVENGERS & ARE DUE TO BE IN THEIR OWN MINI-SERIES IN 1985.**

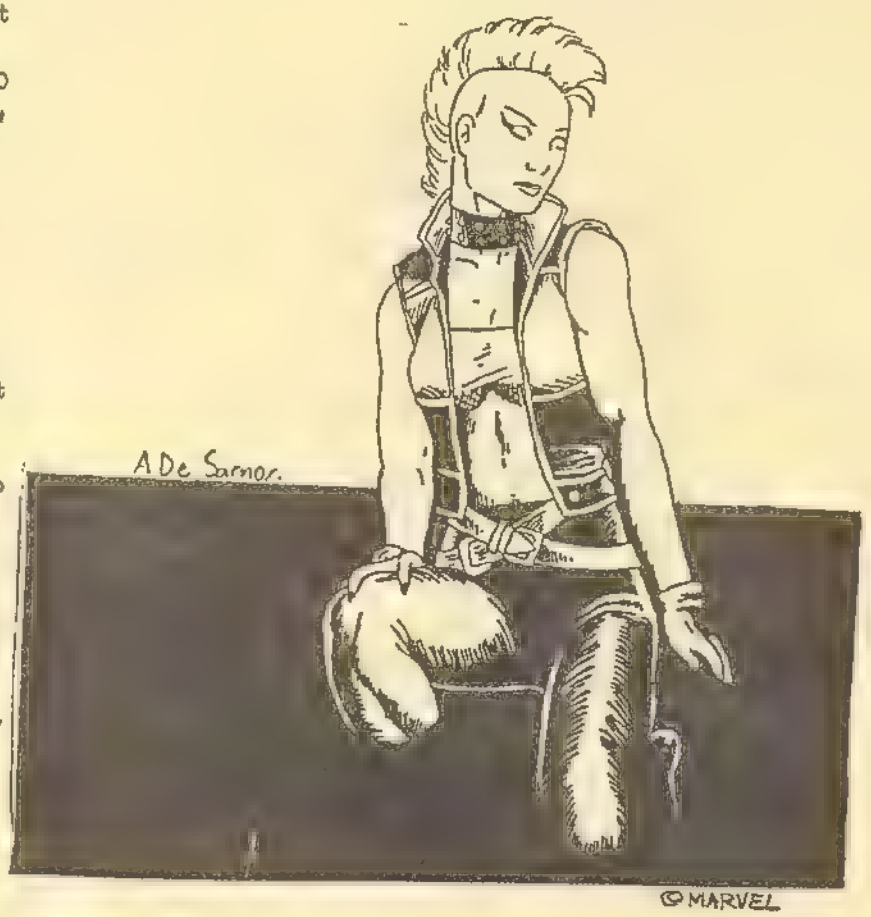
Next. Everyone who writes into X-PLETIVES seems to hate the NEW DEFENDERS, AP & NMs. I agree totally in the cases of the first two, but the NMs have made vast improvement since ≠ 15.

Next. I haven't got all the issues of CEREBRO, so I don't know whether this question has been asked before, so don't blame me if it has. It concerns WOLERINE's metal bits. It says in ≠ 20 that ADAMANTIUM was first seen in AVENGERS ≠ 66. So, if you find the date when the AVENGERS "tested" the metal & take it away from the date when the HUDSONS found LOGAN. If the answer is a minus then WOLVERINE had ADAMANTIUM bones & claws before ADAMANTIUM was discovered. So I'll leave you with that to think about.

NEIL LEWIS'84

IT'LL BE A DEFINITE NEGATIVE. I THINK THE CANADIAN DISCOVERY OF ADAMANTIUM CAME ABOUT WHEN THEY WERE ABLE TO SYNTHESISE A SAMPLE FROM ONE OF WOLVERINE'S BONES - ANYONE REMEMBER THAT SCAR ON WOLVERINE'S RIGHT SHOU--LDER IN X-MEN ≠ 114 ?? ONLY INEPT SURGERY COULD DO THAT. CONSIDERING THE DIFFICULTY OF REPLACING OR COATING ALL HIS BONES.

X-FAN ≠ 380 I think your X-ETORIAL was very thought-provoking & I agree with the majority of what you were saying. Its hardly surprising that a title like THOR is doing so well under SIMONSON when you think of what a mediocre title it was before he took it over. Now, its like a whole new book starting over again. The change is so massive it couldn't help but be a 'fan favourite'. Its the same with NMs as well. The title was sliding downhill into oblivion & now its got a shot in the arm it will do very well. At the MANCHESTER COMIC MART there wasn't a copy of NMs to be had anywhere. Just think if SIENKIEWICZ hadn't taken over the title, it may have gone the same way as the original X-MEN mag - straight into cancellation city. The best art in the whole issue was definitely the X-MEN REPRINT INDEX COVER, closely followed by the amazing JOSE DAV's work throughout ≠ 20. The most interesting part of ≠ 20, for me, was the SURVEY results. I always like reading surveys of all kinds & this one's results were very interesting indeed. Glad to see that there are a lot of WHO fans in the Club. JON PERTWEE is also my all-time favourite DOCTOR - his 5 years will always be the greatest of the show's long history for me. It was also interesting to read in the SURVEY how people are cutting down the number of comics they are buying generally. I know that this has now really affected me & I am down to about 20 regular titles per month plus odd issues of other titles when they have a good month. Can you imagine trying to keep up with every title that comes out every month now ??



Apart from the fact that you'd need to win the pools every 6 months to pay for the mags, where would you put them all ?? Within a year they'd be all over the house, in the garden shed. You'd have to buy a hammock to sleep in so you could use every last inch of space in your room for comic storage & you'll have to start eating old cornflake packets because you haven't got any money left for food after you've bought the 120 baxter reprints MARVEL have bought out this month, reprinting the entire run of that mega-title THE INVADERS with new finish them off yourself covers by JACK 'used to be the King' KIRBY ably assis--ted by NEAL 'who said there's no such thing as a bi-yearly comic' ADAMS (sarcasm rules). I must say that I've been reading the MICRONAUTS/X-MEN thing in the MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL & I hate it. To me the first thing that draws me to a comic is the art & on this story the art & colouring looks rushed, cram--med in & the colours are horrible. I can't think of a word to express my not wanting BUTCH GUICE to take over the X-MEN when ROMITA decides to leave. I'd much rather MARVEL chose a completely new name to MARVEL when the time comes - much like they did with PAUL SMITH. I'd never heard of him before he appear--ed in MARVEL FANFARE & I think that choice led to him being accepted a lot quicker than JOHNNY ROMITA was, although that was partly due to the wrong inker on his first issue or two. Its amazing what a difference DAN GREEN has made, turning mediocre pencils into fine finished art. **OR DO YOU MEAN SOMEONE WHO HAS MORE SYMPATHETIC INKS TO THE PENCILLER ??** Can't say I like the MARVEL UNIVERSE BREAKDOWNS. I'm sorry but they just don't interest me at all. But I know that some of the things that I like about CEREBRO other people probably hate, so don't change them just for the minnority. Onto # 186. This was totally mind-blowing & really far out. Loved it from the start to finish. BARRY SMITH's art was excellent. As was the inking by TERRY AUSTIN. I think STORM's powers will return slowly over the next year or so. Or FORGE will develop a reverse-ray gun. Overall , I think # 186 will go down as one of my all-time classic X-MEN comics - even if the cover was a little dull/bland/plain - the rest of it was excellent. The scene where the WRAITH destroys PHILIP ROSEN was very well done. Lets hope that MARY WHITEHOUSE doesn't get hold of a copy or she'll be ranting & raving about comics as soon as she's wiped video off the face of the Earth. The article on COULD THIS HERO BE A HEROINE ? was what had already clicked in my mind after reading AF # 13-14. It seems that it is destined for HEATHER HUDSON to take up the role of VINDICATOR & I'd like to see this happen. All the pointers in the plots by BYRNE seem to be pointing to HEATHER's continual involvement with the team so maybe she will fill the gap left by her late husband & not team leader as she surely couldn't handle being team leader straight away ?? The thing is that this is what JB is probably hoping we will all be thinking & he prob--ably has something completely different up his sleeve for HEATHER. Talking about JOHN BYRNE, have you seen what he's doing in FF lately ?? TERMINUS must go down as, even for JOHN BYRNE, one of the most unrealistic FF villains ever. Can you imagine what would happen if a being as large as TERMINUS was shot down into the Earth's core at God knows what speed. I'm sure more would happen than the FF's plain: 'Oh well, that's got rid of him for a bit then' attitude. I think it would probably mean good-bye world or hello massive earth--quakes, volcanic eruptions, etc. I know you're all going to be saying I'm taking the whole thing too seriously, but surely the pen of JOHN BYRNE must at some point put a realistic level of power, size, etc onto his creations. I mean if he wanted to, TERMINUS could just have wiped out all the humans on this planet straight away. Why should he bother with us anyway ?? I think the FF should be kept down to Earth a bit more & less of these cosmic-spanning mega sagas we keep getting.

RICK THOMAS'84

X-FAN # 565 The NMs is at last taking taking on a life of its own. I suppose there is not much to say about BILL SIENKIEWICZ that hasn't been said, but the whole sequence with the WARLOCK in # 21 was really funny, like where ILLYANA returns from LIMBO in her 'space ranger' suit. The introduction of 'WARLOCK' looks like an interesting step, though I can't understand what XAVIER could possibly teach or do for him. **HE COULD CONVINCE WARLOCK THAT REFRIFERATORS AREN'T A SENTINEL LIFEFORM**

The one thing I've always wanted to happen in the NMs is for the X-MEN to teach them some skills which looks like coming to fruitation in # 22. I'm glad MAGNETO is back. Its been too long since we've seen him. Shame about his satellite though. The current X-MEN storyline of FORGE & the DIRE WRAITHS is an interesting backdrop to STORM losing her powers. If I had to guess I would say that STORM is going to become a sorceress or some--thing like that. FORGE is really interesting, despite his constant lying & merely adds conviction to the theory that STORM will turn to witch--craft. Stunning deduction, huh ?? **OR YOU'VE BEEN READING THE MAGIK MINI-SERIES.** The MAGNETO article was enjoyable. There are alot of different aspects of this eg if anti-mutant hostility & violence erupted & the Government was forced into action by the public against mutants perhaps all the super-groups (most of which contain at least one mutant) would join MAGNETO in some form of control over the hatred. I doubt it would ever come to this. But anyway, I don't agree with MAGNETO forming his own country. This would merely turn it from 'the enemy from within' to a 'new super--power' that could grasp supremacy at any time. Besides mutants will continue to be born elsewhere to rekindle the 'enemy within' business. If we're using JESUS as an example for a persecuted minority, look at the troubles in ISRAEL, constantly bickering with her neighbours. Don't you get the feeling that as soon as any of those ARAB countries around ISRAEL make (orbital) nuclear weapons, they've had it ?? **FORTUNATELY THEY DON'T POSSESS THEIR OWN SOURCE FOR URANIUM NOR THE NECESS--ARY TECHNOLOGY, THAT'S WHY THEY IMPORT THEIR OWN WEAPON SYSTEMS .**

On a lighter note, your HEATHER HUDSON article was good. Lately she has been appearing in that little title box. I thought she would become the controller of the group, responsible for their accounts & calling them together, but using one of GUARDIAN's suits, eh ?? There would have to be a certain amount of re-adjustment in size & parts to accomodate her smaller form but it would be interesting. She seems more suited to the 'hero' role than her late husband. Something good to look forward to in the FF & AF if BYRNE is changing his pencilling.

KENNETH S. MILLER'84

X-FAN # 344 Since a fair bit of last issue concerned PROFESSOR X & the NMs, I'll start with the latter. I found the 'artwork' in NMs # 19 ranging from poor to bloody awful. SAM GUTHRIE (page 3) looked like some 40 year old anemic with tapeworm; the STARJAMMERS - particularly cage 5 panel 11 - were almost unrecognisable. CORSAIR looked like a zombie & LILANDRA didn't resemble

SPACE....
IT'S TAKEN WEEKS OF HARD WORK, BUT I'VE FINALLY REBUILT ASTEROID M
AND WOE BETIDE ANYONE WHO DOES IT A....
CLANG CLANG CLANG
...PROXIMITY ALARM?
KER-UNCH!!
OH NO... ...WARLOCKS, FATHER!
LAMPREY & BURTON PRODUCTIONS '84
©MARVEL

anyone or anything in particular. The finished art was far too dark & splotchy overall which detracted from a reasonably good story. His previous effort was far better handled, so it is to be hoped that this was just a rushed job that won't be repeated. Regardless of that though, I would much prefer it if he gave up inking his own pencils & allowed someone like BRETT BREEDING, BOB HALL, 'BUTCH' GUICE or even CARL POTTS to try, assuming that none of the 'big name' inkers like TERRY AUSTIN or KLAUS JANSEN want to work with CLAREMONT. As long as the NMs are going to explore mystical/supernatural themes, I accept that dark, 'moody' artwork maybe called for. I do not accept that BILL SIENKIEWICZ is necessarily the best of even the only one at MARVEL capable of doing the job.

Shifting onto the current storyline, I hope CLARE-MONT is going to start carrying over the criticisms voiced by SAM & the others in NMs into the X-MEN. After all, COLOSSUS' sister is involved & while he hasn't shown much concern for her over the past 15-20 issues, now would be a good time as any for him to remember his 'little sister' & press the PROFESSOR to help her & the others. He's likely to be in a fairly lonely position soon as well since he's likely to be up to one-half of the entire X-MEN fighting strength soon. After all, STORM's powerless, KITTY & LOGAN are in JAPAN & ROGUE's still something of an unknown quantity. How local & trustworthy could she be if she had to face MYSTIQUE ?? That leaves NIGHTCRAWLER & possibly CYCLOPS & the PROFESSOR - not the most impressive fighting force if the MORLOCKS or the HELLFIRE CLUB or someone else came a-calling, especially given PETER's 'unfort-unate' tendency to become 'fatally' injured in battle. Somehow I don't think KURT is going to have much free-time to see AMANDA in the near future. There's also the problem of which future RACHEL is from. Its not the current post-punk STORM one & its not the one KATE PRYDE-RASPUTIN came back from in ≠ 141-142 as NMs≠ 18 showed, since RACHEL's 'future' both ILLYANA & PROFE-SSOR X are killed BEFORE they're interned. This means that someone else - MAGNETO ?? - helped her back physically. This is a complication that needs sorting out soon - I only hope CLAREMONT will do it soon. **AS SEEN IN X-MEN ≠ 189, THE FACT THAT XAVIER'S GRAVE-STONE WAS SHOWN IS NO INDICATION THAT HE WAS KILLED IN INTERNMENT.** Concerning the much vaunted return of BARRY ('Pretentious ?? Moi ??) WINDSOR-SMITH to the pages of the X-MEN, I will admit to be grudgingly pleased by his effort. Obviously he's taken the trouble to refine his drawing techniques in his absence. A large measure of the credit however must go to the colourist who did a great job, especially on the cover. If he could draw up to this standard or very near it all the time, I would be willing to accept him as 'permanent' artist for the X-MEN. Moving onto the articles, whilst agreeing with the general conclusions, I think that there was never any real chance that MAGNETO's mutant homeland could be achieved. It would almost certa-inly be surrounded by enemies wherever they founded it - which would be another problem. Since about the only unclaimed territories in the world today are parts of the ARCTIC & ANTARCTIC, someone some-where is going to be dispossessed if the mutants march in. A floating island or undersea colony also has problems of vulnerability, practi-cality & room for population growth. Barring some totally miraculous change in political & social attit-udes, I can only see 3 possible outcomes. The first is that mutant-kind go for broke, attempt world domination & are quickly, if messi-ly, crushed. The second is that a program of world-wide compulsory sterilisation & castration (chemical or otherwise) of all know mutants presently living & born in the future. The third is the gradual re-assimilation of mutants into the general genetic pool of humanity in the hope that the spread of mutant ability will become widespread enough to pose no risk at of a concerted effort on the part of mutants to attempt anything in the future. The 'mutant problem' cannot simply be solved by shooting them all out into space to colonise somewhere else. If a relative hand-ful of mutants are a menace now, leaving your descendants with the potential threat of facing world(s) of angry mutants is simply not acceptable, politically or socially. For an excellent, thoughtful story of how nice, decent people would be likely to react to continous super-hero fights, I recommend the 5-page back-up in this year's TEAM-UP ANNUAL ≠ 7 - the only reason I bothered buying the thing. Its implications are enormous & worrying. These are the type of people who would not actively support or campaign for NAZI-type laws, but they might acquiesce in their passing & implementation simply because the status quo is too frighteningly unclear & comp-licated. I only hope that MARVEL have the guts to follow through & do not turn it into simply another extended fight scene between the X-MEN/NMs & the HELLFIRE CLUB/HELLIONS - thus allowing the X-MEN to demonstrate their goodness & allowing the present legislation to be dropped & the whole situation ignored.

Moving onto the XAVIER articles, I agree that he should go back to running a school. He & CYCLOPS could go out hunting & recruiting - each would make excellent teachers & CYCLOPS could act as laison between the 2 groups. They should stay put with the NMs & allow the others to leave. I can see no real problem in setting up a new headquarters for the X-MEN. I'm sure between them, the ANGEL & the PROFESSOR could purchase some land close to - but not connected with - their current residence. With help from REED RICHARDS & FORGE - as part of making amends - as well as the SHI'AR computers & technology, it would soon be finished. Nor need it be as complex as the current mansion. An old-style DANGER ROOM (little more than an Olympic class gym) would certainly be adequate to keep them in trim. The current X-MEN appear to be managing perfectly well without training sessions at the moment. In this way, the NMs could also develop a larger supporting cast (I'm assuming the NMs will not be bothered by TEAM AMERICA, if they

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haven't already left, they soon will do) including STEVIE HUNTER, possibly MIKE ROSSI if he's going to be kept around & MOIRA, SEAN & probably SIRYN. There's also nothing to stop PROFESSOR X taking on DOUG RAMSEY first as a student & alter to a teaching assistant once he's legally of an age to do so if he wishes. That would surely be a sensible use of his 'mutant abilities' & allow the PROFESSOR more time to absent himself. It would also allow him to expand his stated curriculum, since there is only so much he is surely legally entitled to teach - private academy or not. Given the present panicity of students & staff, its not really surprising that many parents are likely to prefer some--where like the MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY.

S.H.I.E.L.D./FURY's reaction to PROJECT: WIDEAWAKE - probably accepta--nce that they should concentrate on fighing WRAITHS & leave American Gover--nment business to the American Govern--ment. It is after all, supposedly a supra-national agency, NOT purely an American one, despite all appearances to the contrary.**FURY IS DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH HOWEVER, SO THE EFFECTS OF THE ANTI-MUTANT BILL WOULD BECOME ONE OF HIS CONCERNS. APART FROM THE FACT THAT SOME OF HIS FRIENDS ARE MUTANTS - & POKER PLAYERS - SHIELD IS ONE OF THE FEW AGENCIES WITH THE EXPE--RIENCE & NECESSARY FIREPOWER TO BACK UP THE BILL.** A complete X-INDEX ?? Certainly it would be interesting, but I agree the price factor will be important. An updated index covering all X-MEN & NMs would almost certainly be between 75-100 pages, allowing 24 entries on an average of 3 or 4 pages per entry & therefore be at least £3.00, would it not ?? Perhaps the price could be kept down if it was available as more than just a Club offer ??

GEOFF - the superhero represents more than just revenge. It is also an (extreme) example of participating democracy. Surely all citizens of all nations have a natural right 'to make' citizen's arrests & help the establis--hed forces of law & order, even though the tolerated limits of such a 'right' vary greatly from country to country & from situation to situation. It depends largely on commonly accepted (majority) measures of 'minimium necessary force' needed to subdue & capture the criminal. While notoriously inexact, its limits can be gauged by nations of 'acceptable' treatment when mated out to burglars/petty crooks at one end of the spec--trum & suspected rapists & murderers at the other.
IF EVERYONE FOLLOWED THIS ACTION, THERE WOULD BE GENERAL ANARCHY WITH EVERYONE ACCUSING EVERYONE ELSE OF ANYTHING THAT CAME INTO THEIR MIND WHEN THEY HAD A GRUDGE AGAINST THEM. I THINK THE MOST WORRYING ASPECT IS THAT OF 'MASKED VIGILANTES' - THAT LETS IN NOT ONLY SUPER HEROES BUT THE KU-KLUX KLAN & ANY MASKED TERRORIST - CAN DO THIS & NOT APPEAR IN COURT TO BACK UP THE CLAIM.

The repercussions of the fight with SELENE - the X-MEN are surely wanted as material witnesses to a fire & murder. SELENE's likely to be back stalking RACHEL & somewhere an influential man is probably blaming the X-MEN for the death of his son - the afors--mentioned murder.
WHERE THE SELENE INCIDENT IS CONCERNED, ALL THAT WOULD BE FOUND IN THE REMAINS OF THE FIRE WILL BE ONE CORPSE WITH NO INDICATION OF MURDER, ALTH--OUGH RACHEL WOULD BE REGARDED AS A MATERIAL WITNESS IF THEY HAD MORE THAN A DESCRIPTION OF A RED-HAIRED GIRL TO GO BY. ITS UNLIKELY THE PRESENCE OF THE X-MEN WAS EVEN KNOWN.

GEOFF - you wanted to know if you should express your opinion concerning the X-MEN. I, for one, think you have every right if you wish. For instance, what do you consider the best or worst issue since, say # 137 or # 150 & why ?? The art ?? The story ?? Both ??
OF ALL THE NEW X-MEN RUN, I GUESS MY REAL 'FAVOURITE' WAS # 141-142 - SIMPLY BECAUSE IT PRODUCED A BLEAK & DESOLATED FUTURE INTERLACED WITH CURRENT EVENTS MAKING IT WELL-PACED & ME ON EDGE THROUGHOUT, LEAVING ME WITH A LOT TO CONSIDER AT THE END. Have you ever thought seriously about just dropping the whole Club/zine because you'd totally lost interest in the X-MEN or comics generally ?? If so, what made you change your mind (if you have)??

DON THOMPSON'84
SOME PEOPLE WOULD ASK IF I EVER THOUGHT 'SERIOUSLY' ABOUT ANYTHING IN THE FIRST PLACE.

X-FAN # 273 You really shoul--d'nt be such a wimp, GEOFF. Taking that kind of umbridge over PAUL CORNELL's mythical outing & getting the huff with that 'trust' statment. Wally, who gives 2 shakes of a blind man's tin ?? Not I, said the pig. I almost creased myself laughing when I was told it wasn't real. I was swore to secrecy to not tell you though cos, right--fully so, it was suspected you wouldn't have the right attitude & would take it the wrong way. But of course, had you been let in on it from the start then knowing you there's no way you would've let it in. So predictable. So c'mon. It was only a bit of fun. You don't want it banned like some people, do you ?? Fun that is. The way some people get so uptight about inconsequent--ial things. **LIKE ACTUALLY ASKING IF IT WAS A HOAX & TOLD NO I SUPPOSE ?? AND THEN BEING TOLD I ASKED NO SUCH THING I SUPPOSE. SO MUCH FOR INTEGRITY & FRIENDSHIP - WE DON'T ALL OBEY YOUR ANARCHY, ROSS, NOR DELIBERATELY AT SOMEONE ELSE'S EXPENSE.**

All this malarky about censorship. As far as I'm concerned censorship is a private & personal affair. NO-ONE tells me what to watch/do/like etcetc. I'm against censorship on EVERYTHING. And before you come back at me, GEOFF, with, 'Even...(fill in the blanx)..' I wish you to read that word. I said EVERYTHING. Except maybe anything right wing. Censore them & their views to extinction hehehehe.. ..Me ?? Dangerous ?? You must be imagin ing things, GEOFF old friend. Snikt! Unfortunately, though the right-wing society in which we live DOES tell us what WE can watch/do etcetc, which is clearly wrong. It is wrong for someone else's opinions to be forced oppressively on you. Individuals not cattle & their herdsmen! As to children, parental control should ensure here. It is itself again one set of someone else's opinions being foisted on others but its better than letting children harm themselves before they can mature enough to judge life for themselves. Individual parental control to that parent's offspring. So that it varies from family unity to family unit. Don't give me any of that crap about kids all being the same. I know of 13 year olds coping with families of younger brothers & sisters & I know of people in their 40s who never grow up! Except in pre-set requisites of society. Which lets them loose amongst the rest of us! Mankind! Bah! Biggest mistake God made & if you're an atheist then the biggest mistake random chance ever made. OK ?? Bah! Me cynical ??? Perish the thought... **GENOCIDE AIN'T MUCH FUN EITHER.** The X-MEN. Oh ghod! Why did you have to bring that load of sheep's entrails up. Just cos this fanzine happens to be devoted to them (which doesn't say much for this fanzine!) doesn't mean I have to bother with them, does it ?? It does ? Oh shit. Well, I er, um happen to like it. CLARE--MONT's dialogue is still something that has me with a sick bag on hand but his STORIES are still better than average stupor-heroes fun. Which is important in itself. DANNY-BOY GREEN is turning miracles over JR Jr's lacklustre pencils. Oh, JR Jr has the designs & the comic artistry of it, but his actual rendition is very sketchy & not a favourite of mine. FRANK GIACOIA's inks showed

this on SPIDER-MAN as one example.

I'm so pleased that VINDICATOR/GUARDIAN got his! Bleedin' wimp. Pity about UNUS though, always liked him. Where did he cash his?? I don't read too many MARVEL COMICS as I prefer not throwing up so I don't know where UNUS got his. **PETER PARKER # 91.**

Listen INNES you little scotch-egg you! Don't think a holiday in SWITZERLAND will put you beyond my wraith. I warned you about the X-GAULS, yet still you went ahead! So you think that broken-leg was just a skiing accident, huh ?? Well think again, buddy, my hands are far-reaching har har har... **MUST HAVE COME FROM THAT TIME YOU WERE RACKED OUT BY THE INQUISITION.** Listen, GEOFF. I didn't get detention at school. I was too quick for the sods! I just knew of other people getting those essays, strangely enough off gamesmasters! **WAS IT TRUE THAT THEY USED YOU FOR THE BALL THEN**

IAN CLARK should be bottled & sold as a pick-me-up. I'm sure his shafts of wit would cheer up anyone before crashing reality brought them down to earth with a thump in the groin. WHATLEY's WIDEAWAKE article wasn't a 'cogs' n'nuts' article. That's why I liked it. I dislike all the other type of REAL cog'n'nuts articles & features. Like that computer print-out garbage you're still churning out. Garbage. It still bores me stupid. Infact, I won't bother with it. **C'MON ROSS. YOU'VE ALREADY DECLAIRED THAT YOU'RE STUPID, WHY BLAME ME FOR IT ??** One thing about CEREBRO is that because of its colossal size, no matter how much crap its full of, there's always SOMETHING good to read/look at. Some sugar in the shit. A gem in the gross. Something. Its just a pity that sometimes upto $\frac{2}{3}$ of it isn't fit to supplement the bogroll.

This isn't entirely a reflection on you, GEOFF, of course. You put an awful lot of time into juggling all this stuff around to get it to fit in. So what if it looks untidy. It fits, doesn't it ? That's all that really matters. And there's all the extra-publicational work. The orders, the contract, the CUTING. All in all, you just manage to make a pig's ear of all of it. HEY. IT WAS A JOKE!!! Please get off my throat, GEOFF. Pretty please with sugar on ulp... phew! **I'M NOT ALLOWED TO EAT SUGAR.** No; seriously you handle things fairly well for the time you have. I wouldn't want to do it. So something of interest to every--body is amongst the morass of yeuchh is a good enough achievement. Goodonyerbkue.

ROSS COWIN'84

X-FAN # 535 Oh heavesey! (pause while I decide how to write this). OK, so here we are back in the cages of CEREBRO # 21 & it doesn't seem that long since I joined up with # 18. I must start this LoC with 2 very importantly & grave points. Firstly, I must say a large SORRY to ROSS COWIN for all the nasty things I said about him in # 20. Since I wrote that, ROSS & I have become (hesitate) good friends. I must say (must I ?) that ROSS is a really nice person & ... Wait a minute I better stop or he'll never let me forget this!!! **THAT'S ALRIGHT. YOU'VE JUST SHOT HIS MR. NASTY PERSONA TO BLAZES.**

Secondly, I'd like to thank DON--ALD THOMPSON for welcoming me into the Club, nice of you that. I KNEW the compost jokes would come (Grrr, snarl, yaks at chain!). I haven't read PHOENIX THE UNTOLD STORY, but I agree with DONALD that (from what I see on the pages) the second 'mix' of # 137 was not nearly as effective as ye ol' first try/success. **I THINK YOU MEANT THAT THE OTHER WAY ROUND. PHOENIX CAME FIRST & #137 WAS THE REVISED VERSION.**

On page 44, GEOFF asked whether running a fan club for 6 years is a lasting monument. Well, it all dep--ends on what that 'fan club' has done concerning everybody involved. Speaking personally, through the fan club, my art has improved vastly since I joined, thanks to GEOFF(you should have seen my first stuff). Now something that I'm sure concerns us all. Friends. How many friends have you made since you joined ?? At least one, I'm sure. I have made loads of friends & when I say loads, I mean loads. For example (hope I don't miss anybody out): GEOFF, IAN CLARK, ROSS COWIN, DAVE PRICE, ROGER GIBSON, LORRAINE GOODISON & through these people even more: ALEC CHALMERS, CRAIG HUGHES & many many more. If friendship isn't a'lasting monumenh', GEOFF, I don't know what is!!

I agree with NEAL BURTON's super-fantastic article. I started reading the reprints when I was 11 & it hasn't done me any harm, has it ?? Skint...Splat...Pow...Thwip! I had to argue along similar lines in a debate in school recently. The motion was that 'this house condemns the violence in TOM & JERRY & thinks it to be a corrupting influence on children'. I was against the motion,

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saying the violence didn't corrupt & I won my case.

May I ask JAMES GREY & GEOFF a small question. Why do we have that VAMPIRES article in CEREBRO ?? What purpose did it serve ?? I'm not criticising the article, which was quite acceptable, but what purpose did it serve in the X-MEN FAN CLUBZINE ?? **BECAUSE BOTH X-MEN # 159 & ANNUAL # 6 BOTH FEATURED THE SUBJECT RATHER PROMINENTLY. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IN # 19 EXCEPT FOR A SLIGHT PROBLEM WITH ANOTHER ARTICLE.** Why was UNUS killed off ?? At the end of the HULK story in MARVEL FANFARE, he pulled BLOB away from the battle scene promising to care for him like a true friend. This was a good ending & I thought: Good, UNUS can finally be left in peace. Why oh why did MARVEL kill him just to put the BLOB on the rampage for one issue. I thought it was a totally pointless exercise & I mourn UNUS. Rest in peace. I hope nobody trys to drag him up again.

JOHN INNES'84

X-FAN # 67 As a passing comment you ask if running a fan club for the past 6 years is a 'lasting monument' to a person's life. That's a question only you can answer for yourself. However, I would say you have a lot more talent currently going 'spare' because of your committment to the fan club. In other words, you must ask yourself, 'Am I wasting my potential ?' Don't answer the question now but keep it in mind. 6 years is a long time to give to something that may not be making the most of your abilities. To be frank, cos you are a friend, I would say to myself: Well, this has been a blast but now is the time to move onto other things. In other words, close down the Club. Don't leap for my jugular, please. I'm just giving you my perspective of the situation & I hate the thought of you wasting your time. The Club has done wonders in its time, introducing new people to fandom, encouraging members to enter comics prof--essionally, giving lots of people new-found confidence to have their say on matters that concern them. You deserve credit for this. But the Club is a dead-end in terms of development of your own abilities. You are a good leader, an excellent organiser & you should be using your abilities in a professional capacity, preferably as an editor of a comic or magaine. However cruel this may sound, no one will miss the Club when it has gone. A pleasant memory perhaps. A few crocodile tears from the hypocrites of fandom, but give it 6 months & it will be forgotten, more or less. It is way past time started considering your own wants & needs. Do something with your life. It doesn't have to even be in comics but decide what you really want in life & then go out & try to snatch it before its too late. After 6 years, you're in a rut. Break free of its hold & decide what you really want to do. The X-MEN is a beautiful comic & it'll survive

without the Club. Wind down the Club gracefully (& let the members know the reasons & the final issue-to-be - don't just quit & leave members confused as so many other zine eds have done in the past) & then put all that incredible energy you possess into making a success of whatever it is that you want (& be believe me, you'll make it!). JOHN GATEHOUSE'84

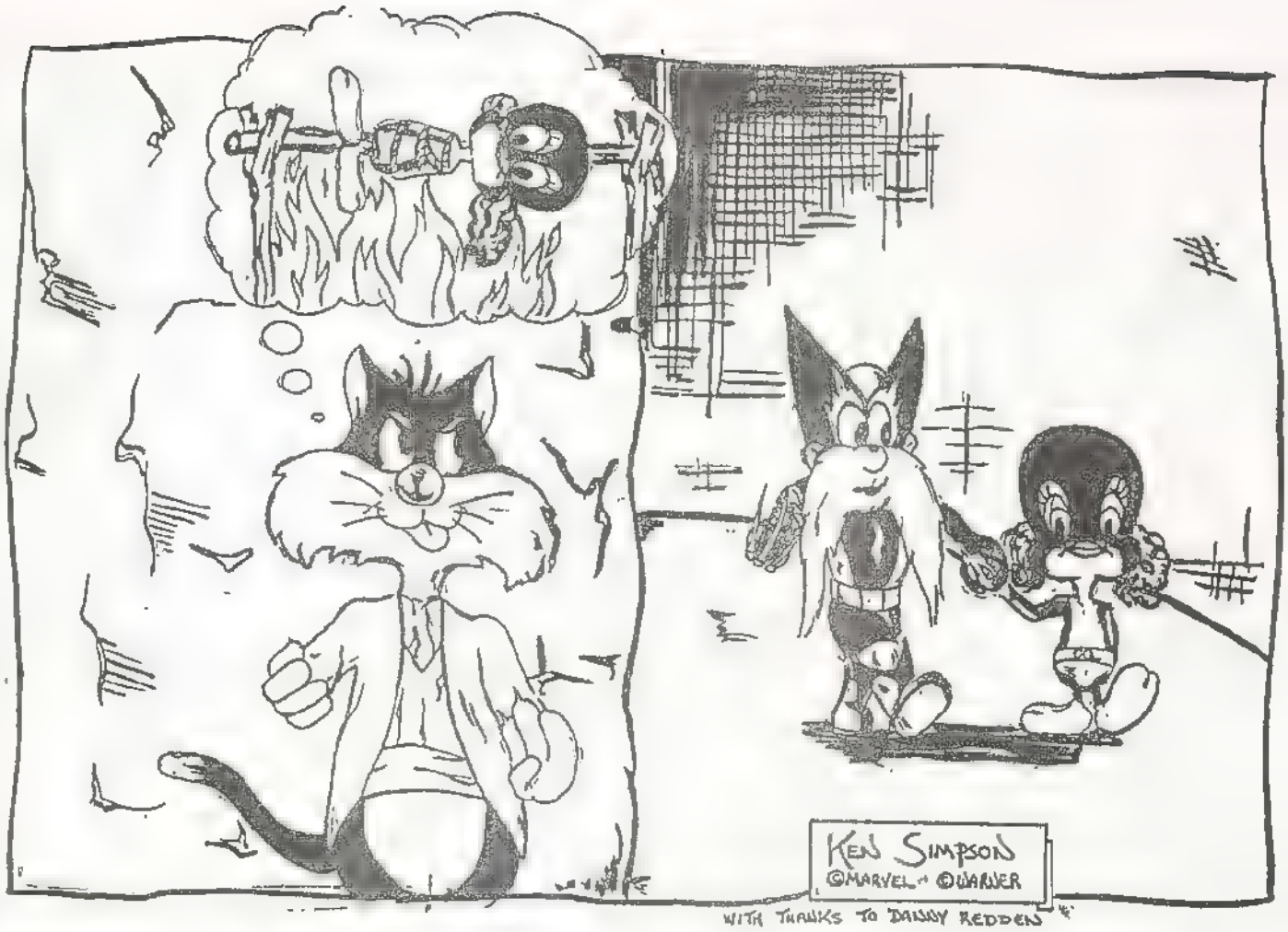
X-FAN ≠ 571 A first letter from a new fan! I expect a lot of the same because of the excellent idea of the application form in ≠ 20. I've only been picking up CEREBRO since ≠ 5 but only now joined up. Also, I've converted an RAF man to X-fandom, so now I'll hope to get a letter published & make the hat-trick.

≠ 20 just shows the zine is going from strength to strength. The cover is better than ever, if a little over-busy in trying to guest-star everyone, & having the artist sign his work (say up near the logo) could only help.

Quality of spot illos is a cause for celebra--tion too, as many seem to be more confident than earlier, bolder but without the fussy scrat--ching its easy to perp--etrate (I should know, my pit-space is full of rejected drawings I can't bear to ditch).

Onto specific articles, the one on the DEFENDERS raises a few interesting points in my eye. The bit about the group staying together out of duty is worthy of expansion, as the AVENGERS, JLA & LSH are well-organised while the X-MEN, TEEN...er... sorry...TITANS & FF stay together almost (or as) families; something that crops up continually, as if the writer of those books wants to keep away from any 'military'ideas. At least all are free to go, even if they lose their £1000 a week in the case of the AVENGERS. The DEFENDERS originally were (all but DR. STRANGE) misfits, with nowhere to stay or people to avoid. The few who did have a life outside (& no sense of duty) usually left several times eg NIGHTHAWK & the HULK. Enough of that. OBITS are always depres--sing, but if GUARDIAN had more than on suit, will it fit his wife ?? Will it wrinkle ?? I'd like to see it, if only to inject some much-needed levity into this book.

**ALTHOUGH IN AF≠ 18, BYRNE ESTABLISHES THAT THE ONE



MECHANISED SUIT WAS DESTROYED - WHICH WAS SUSPECTED ANYWAY - GUARDIAN'S CYBERNETIC HELMET DIDN'T GO UP IN THE MELT-DOWN & BOOKS IS STILL CAPABLE OF TAKING THIS AS A STARTING POINT TO MAKE A NEW BODY ARMOUR.** As a barrack-room lawyer, I'd say that XAVIER/ENTITY should be pronounced not guilty on grounds of temporary insanity & sent for a psychiatric report (poss--ibly by REED RICHARDS or even ROGUE). Serious?? Who me ?? The DATA BREAKDOWNS are unnecessary in my opinion, as a sale of the computer program used would be more useful. As for the censorship biz brought up by LAMPREY: those self-elected groups are unknowingly signing away a basic right when they demand the Government control what children see on video & in magazines. Parents ARE & MUST BE responsible for everything their kids do until they are 18 & responsible for themselves. Parents can turn off the TV, lock the porn videos in the drawer when not in use, TAKE AN INTEREST in what they read & explain it in loving terms so it holds no fascination for them. TALKING with your kids regularly will remove almost all problems. I know. Its how I was brought up & I consider that it worked (OK, so I'm on valium diet to guilt trips. So what.). Unfortunately, the laws being passed apply to ALL, so we're going the same route of American TV - only 3 year old mentali--ties can be pandered to. End of sermon. I here--by throw myself at the mercy of the Club.

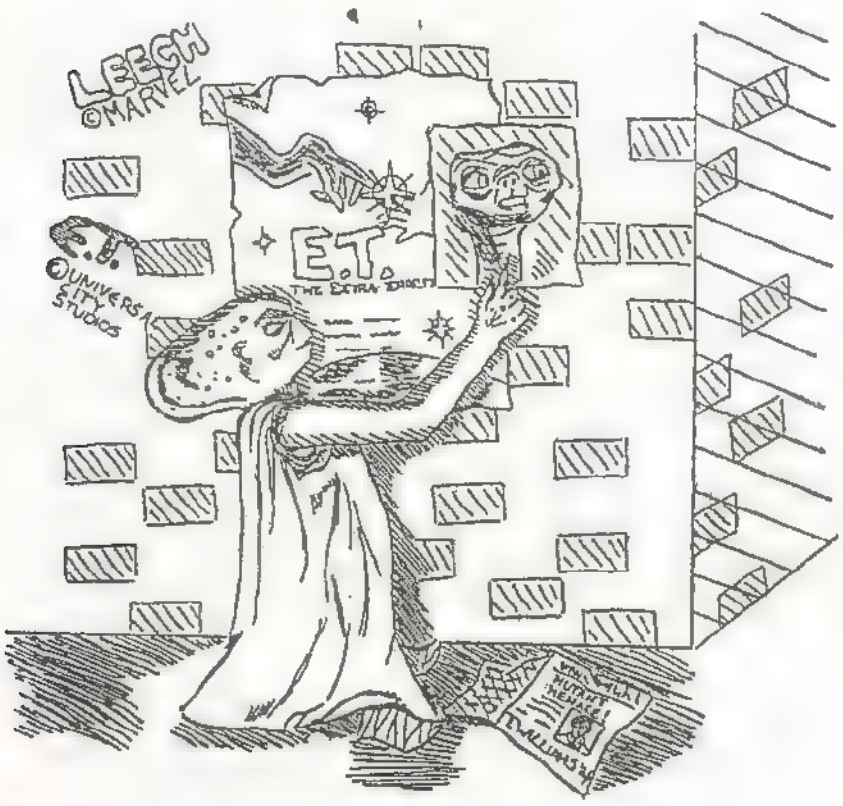
DICK ALLRIDGE'84

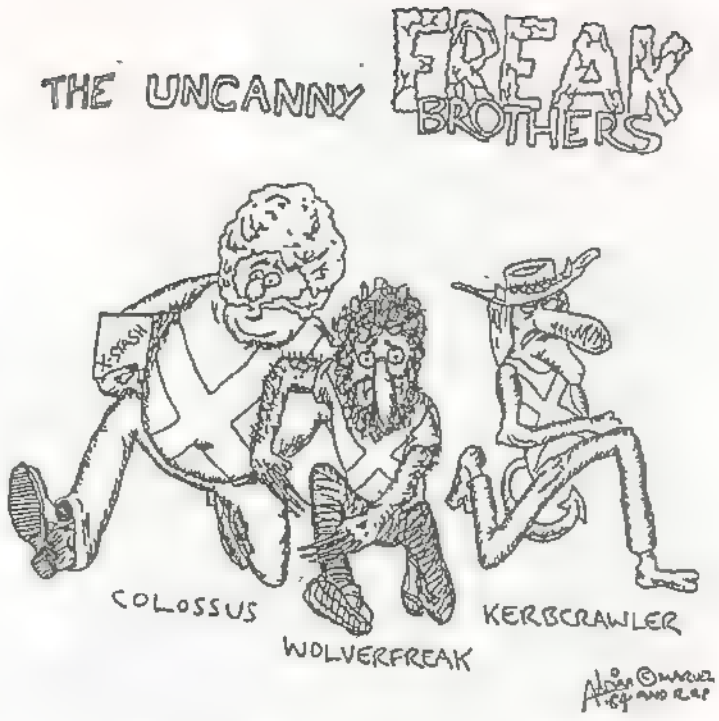
X-FAN ≠ 428 Your editorial seems to have gone astray somewhere; this'fan favourtism' hasn't suddenly prung up overnight with the advent of SIENKIEWICZ, NMs has been an excellent seller since its first issue & that's despite a rotating cast of artists that might have stagg--ered BUSBY BERKLEY. It also seems bloody hypocritical of you to condemn a 'lemming-like stampede' for fan favourites & obeisance to rumour when you edit a zine & head a fan-club which promoted such an abortion as X-MEN/MICRO--NAUTS, the pathetic MAGIK MINI-SERIES & heads a detailed examination of every aspect, no matter how minor or ridiculous of THE fan-fave. Damn the torpedoes, lets set a new low in lack of objectivity, eh ?? **MAYBE YOU SHOULD HAVE CONSIDERED WHO I WAS AIMING THE EDITORIAL AT ?? THE EDITORIAL WAS AIMED AT THE TYPE OF PEOPLE WHO QUICKLY JUMP ON THE BAND-WAGON BECAUSE THEY THINK THEY ARE MISSING SOMETHING RATHER THAN BUY THE COMIC FOR ITS OWN SAKE. I DO RESENT BEING ACCUSED OF PROMOTING SOMETHING WHEN I HAVEN'T DONE SO THOUGH. BOTH MINI-SERIES WERE EXAMINED AFTER THE EVENT. A PROMOTION WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THE LINES OF BIG SPLASH ANNOUNCE--MENTS OF WHAT WAS COMING. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY WEREN'T TOTALLY IGNORED EITHER. ONE CANNOT RUN A ZINE SUCH AS THIS & THEN PICK & CHOOSE WHAT SHOULD & SHOULDN'T BE COVERED WHERE THE X-MEN ARE CONCERNED.**

PAUL HAYWARD finds no sympathy for the DEFENDERS in me. As he says, its simply a merchandising exercise &, as such an exercise, I think its OK; however, as a comic book its abysmal. The characterisation he refers to doesn't exist; DeMATTEIS couldn't inject anything of the kind into the comic, he simply relied on the standard heroes versus menace formula with a veneer of intellect hastily pasted over. Fine for STAN LEE in the 1960s, hardly the stuff for the 80s. As for PETER GILLIS, the man can't write WARP with the wit & humourous intellect that it used to have, so its been dropped to bi-monthly; I doubt if he'll have even that much luck with the NEW DEFENDERS as I expect (a) that the book will be cancelled or (b) he'll be replaced in the near future. In fact, I fervently HOPE that either (a) or (b) comes to pass because I've read his first half-dozen issues &, instead of feeling for the characters & developing upon earlier 'charact--erisation' in the MARVEL UNIVERSE he's treading water, hampered by the sudden change in emphasis from mystical villains & the sudden re-exposure of the characters to the rest of the MARVEL world, where they were, previously, isolated. I'll certainly go back to the comic sometime in the near future, I won't condemn it without reading it & noting any new developments, but I don't expect the quality - I use that word loosely - of the stories to alter significantly. Its sad to see someone with such an obvious feeling for, & knowledge of, MARVEL COMICS completely lost. STEVE WHATLEY's contribution was interesting, following similar lines to an article I did some time ago, but going into the subject of mutant hierarchy/subjection/autonomy more than I cared to at the time. I disagree with his closing statement though. It has always been that the fraction which wields the more power &/or influence invariably comes out on top. There's no logic in mutants subduing their superiority simply for cosmetic reasons; as even the most out-landish mutant ability gives the possessor superiority over ordinary humans, its

only natural that humans should be treated, not as second-class citizens, but as inherently inferior types as, in the 'real world', they would tend to sink to the bottom of the pile while mutants would secure all of the benefits that natural advantage bestows. Its no use talking about a utopia where mutants & humans could be equal because she things tend not to happen as a part of the natural evolutionary process. Of course, now people are going to start screaming about this being a racist-attitude & how whites regard blacks as inherently inferior, just as the Chinese regard non-orientals as such, but that arguement falls down because such a differentiation is patently artificial, there is no scientific reasoning to support it, whereas, with mutants & humans, the proof is obvious to even the more unintelligent. No, there's little point in talking about human-mutant equality, but that doesn't exclude human-mutant concord, with the mutants accepting the humans as a dying evolutionary form & treating them kindly & benevolently until they fade away into history. Lets see what the vociferous bleeding-heart liberals in the Club make of that! **YOU'VE ALSO VOICED THE REASON WHY SOME HUMANS WANT TO DESTROY THE MUTANTS. THE EFFECT OF BEING REGARDED AS OBSOLETE CAN BE TRAUMATIC TO SAY THE LEAST, ESPECIALLY AS THEY ALSO POSSESS THE WEAPONS TO FIGHT AGAINST WHAT NATURE IS PREPARING FOR THEIR SPECIES.** After reading through each issue of CEREBRO I'm left with the opinion that 90% of it is padding out & that the zine could be half the size it is, & half the price, & still say what it has to say adequately. Its no use defend-ing your policy of printing such under the blanket-heading of 'encouraging new/up & coming/budding writers' because an editor's job, if he does it right, is to present an entertaining, value-for-money package, not a collection of blank pages coated with letters of the alphabet in a deceptively logical arrangement. MICHAEL CHEATER's piece on the CODE OF LIGHT was very good, an outstanding exception to the more primitive efforts in this, & earlier, issues of CEREBRO. Well-constructed, detailed, literate, interesting subject matter, little or no wasted space & allowing enough room for further surmise by LoCers. Would that the rest of CEREBRO's, & other fanzines, contributors took note of his methods. I'll look forward to seeing more of MICHAEL's work on a wider range of topics in the future.

JEAN ROGERS made a valid point about the 'sexist' attitudes of artists at MARVEL & to my mind, raised another more interesting one about the preponderantly juvenile smut that appears in CEREBRO with tedious regularity. Its no wonder that CEREBRO is regarded as a juvenile publication by many people, including myself, when we are subjected to the GET KITTY LAID SOCIETY-level of humour & the soft-porn illustrations of her that seem to crop up every issue. Its quite a healthy thing for males to develop, &, in moderation, dis-play a sexual interest in females, but I begin to wonder about the mentality of both the artists who draw such illustrations, & the readers who take delight in them. I'm tempted to class them as immature, surely a word to raise hackles in fan-circles, but it isn't a question of maturity, more emotional insecurity & doubt & embarrassment about their own sexuality that brings about these outpourings of juvenile voyeurism. You can argue that this tendency isn't limited to CEREBRO alone, but I'm not discussing any other zine, I'm talking about this one. Isn't it time that you set a trend by cleaning this (yes, I'll say it, now) immaturity out of your system ?? And if anyone cares to raise the old point of comics representing immaturity (expression of anti-authoritarian feelings, escapism, male aggressiveness) in that, if I like thm, I must be immature, then I'll welcome correspondence on the topic, NOT through the pages of CEREBRO, because I'll simply refuse to acknowledge LoCs





on the subject if they appear in X-PLETIVES, but privately, direct to my address. **A FORM OF CENSORSHIP THEN FOR WHATEVER RRASON! FOR SHAME - HERE WAS I WAITING FOR AN INTELLECTUAL DISCUSSION AS TO WHAT ACTUALLY CONSTITUES SOFT PORN IN THE FIRST PLACE.**

Yet another zine editor supporting KNOCKABOUT. Look, they knew what they were doing when they put those books out, now they have to suffer the consequences. **WHICH WERE THAT THE COURTS ACQUITED THEM ON ALL COUNTS**

I've no time for addicts & experimenters, & even less time for fools who encourage the aforementioned. Call me intolerant, if you so desire but, in my case, its not a matter of the government & courts crippling some poor innocent, they're taking action, justifable action, against defandants against the NARCOTICS ACT of whatever yaar it was, full stop. There's a wide distinction between producing humourous material such as FFFB or FFC & detailed pamphlets & books on distillation, cultiv-ation & preparation of illegal substances. **THE ENTIRE POINT OF MY ARTICLE WAS REGARDING HOW FAR THE FREEDOM OF PUTTING ANYTHING INTO PRINT CAN GO IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY. WE SHOULD HAVE THE FREEDOM TO DECIDE FOR OURSELVES WHAT WE WANT TO READ. THESE BOOKS EXIST. IF A SITUATION IS CREATED WHERE THEY ARE HIDDEN UNDER COUNTERS IT'LL HOLD A FAR GREATER ATTRACTION TO DO SOMETHING WHICH WILL BUCK AUTHORITY & IS THEREFORE POTENTIALLY MORE DANGEROUS. SOMEONE ONCE SAID THAT IF POT WAS EVER LEGALISED, MANY WHO USE IT WOULD STOP BECAUSE THE FEAR OF BEING FOUND OUT WOULD BE LOST.**

SIMON JOWETT's article was so lightweight that it could have blown away at any time. He had an interest-ing premise but he failed to do anything with it. Again, as editor, you profess to be getting the best out of people. I disagree, I think you're trying to provide a bulky package for each issue of CEREBRO so that people think they're getting their money's worth. Sorry to be so critical, but that's how I feel. Compared to BLACK & WHITE, even FANTASY ADVERTISER, you aren't delivering the goods, solid, interesting, intelligent articles & features, to the extent that one would expect of a fanzine that contains 64 pages & took nearly half a year to deliver. I don't know if you'll think I've been unduly severe in my criticism of CEREBRO, I don't think I have been, rather I'm giving you an honest appraisal of the zine as I see it. No doubt, lots of members will leap to your defence anyway.

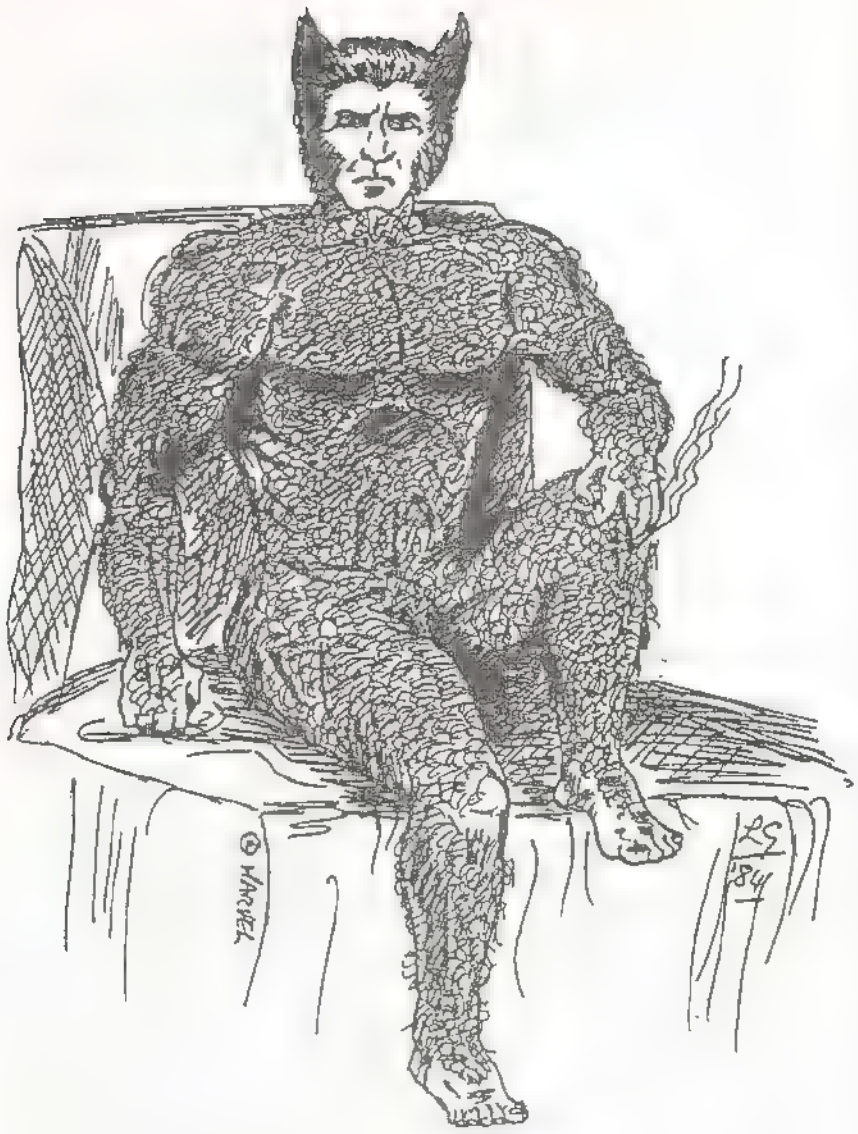
RAI DAVIES'84

X-FAN / 368 / 20 was, though it may sound cliched, the best yet. Really good. I'd like to point out a couple of things. Constructive criticism if you like.

1) After JEAN ROGERS' article, I'll probably get my STORM pic censored, right ?? **FOR A DIFFERENT REASON ACTUALLY. ANYONE WHO SAYS DON'T SEND IT BACK IN CASE YOUR FAMILY SEES IT WILL MAKE IT VERY DUBIOUS TO PUT IT IN FRONT OF A LARGER AUDIANCE. ME ?? A DIPLOMAT ??**

Ah well! Could you point out to JEAN that more often than not MEN are depicted on covers, etc, with their clothes torn & much more graticously than women, too, I might add. I won't mention WOLVERINE (tsk tsk) who offhand I can remember 2 occasions where he charged off into battle nearly starkers (/ 107 & 145). **HE WAS SHOWN THAT WAY ON THE COVER OF X-MEN / 162 TOO.**

I don't fancy that JEAN ROGERS article passed many



BIASED points as fact when often most of it was just HER imag-
-ination. I'm 15 & I certainly didn't find anything obscene in the covers of # 163, 177 & 168 as she no doubt did.
YOU'RE ALSO OF THE OPPOSITE SEX. Was KITTY's shirt 'sugges-
-tively slashed' in any of these pics ?? # 163 was pure Sci-Fi horror. # 177 was supposed to be a shockcover: 'WOLVERINE's just killed KITTY!' # 168 I thought was just a sort of'KITTY's last stand' sorta thing. Anyway, I prefered your article on censor-
-ship even though it was considerably shorter.Loved your pic of WOLVERINE in black lace though. By the way, do you realize you had 12 pics in # 20 ?? Are you so short of material that you now edit, write & draw most of the mag ?? **DOES IT LOOK THAT WAY ?? HEY, I ALWAYS THOUGH A 'PIC' WAS SOMETHING YOU USED TO DIG UP CONCRETE.** Also, the ARTIST POOL seems to have shrunk considerably. It seemed that most of the pics were divided between NEAL BURTON & JOSE! I'm probably just imagining it (I can imagine you right now swamped by 1000s of illos!).

ANTONIO DE SARNO'84

AS THE ARTIST POOL LINE-UP ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE SHOULD INDICATE, ITS EXPANDING RATHER THAN DEPLETING. ANYONE WITH A BAD CASE OF INSOMNIA LIKE TO DO AN ILLO COUNT-UP & SEE JUST WHO HAS DONE THE MOST ILLOS IN THE LAST 6 CEREBROs - I'D BE CURIOUS TO KNOW. LET ME KNOW FIRST TOO, LEST I GET A DELUGE OF DATA TO WADE THROUGH.

X-FAN # 120 3 people! (I beg your pardon ?) 3 people - - - - (what about them ?) 3 sodding replies to the G.K.L.S. camp! (Oh, we're back on that one, are we ?!) Yes, we are as you say, back on that one. And would you be quiet, I'm trying to write a letter here! (Certainly - - - -) Thank you!!! (You're welcome!) Hmfff - - - OK, where was I ...Ah yes, 3 sodding replies. (You've already said that!) I KNOW!!! NOW SHUT UP! Yeah, well I hope your water bed leaks, SO THERE!!! How could you do this to me!?! I mean, where are all the Club's perverts then ?? I know you exist! I've seen you - & you know who you are - walking around SOHO on an AUGUST afternoon!!! Buying COMICS indeed - - Oh, now on now, who's gonna believe something as absurd as this!?! Well, anyway, that's it. The GET KITTY LAID SOCIETY is dead! I hope you're all thoroughly ashamed of yourselves!!! (Actually, I've recently toned down the pervert side of my personality, so its not as much of a blow as you might expect). **WHAT ?? A SPLIT PERSONALITY AGREEING WITH ITSELF ??**

JEAN (now, why did I go straight for that one ??) - Of course its reprehensible to depict women as sex 'objects' in comics! But when it comes to CEREBRO, all the rules have to change. The zine prints what are essentially pin-ups! Being pin-ups, this leaves the artist with very little space to get over what he/she wants to say about the character. So if you want to emphasize the attractive, sexual side of a character in a pin-up, you have to depict said character in a suggestive position, &/or partly nude! I'm curious, do you consider SANDY SCHREIBER a traitor to her sex for depicting ANGEL & CANDY in the buff!?! The only thing that KITTY illo reveals about DAVE ROACH is that the guy is one hell of an artist!!! A less kinky guy you couldn't hope to meet! One of the reasons I set up the G.K.L.S. is because I was amazed at how CLAREMONT was handling the character. Her role in the comic (if you'll pardon the expression!) was purely to provide some will she/won't she titulation with COLOSSUS! Her value - if it then existed - to the team was never really examined & she wasn't used effectively as a plot device liability. It was just making fun of the character!

The comic is picking up again recently. J.R.'s artwork is a joy to behold & CLAREMONT's script is becoming read-
-able again. I'm beginning to enjoy the book to the same extent as when BYRNE & AUSTIN were on the book. J.R. may not be as strong as BYRNE & AUSTIN, but he's a damn sight better than BYRNE on his own. Just take AF# 17. If that doesn't bring home just how much AUSTIN had to do with the success of the book, I dunno what does!!! I don't intend to just keep waffling, so I'll just finish off saying,the zine's looking very healthy. Nice to see the Club's picked up some bright new art talent in the last few issues,with NEAL BURTON being the leader of the pack so far....

DAVE PRICE'84

X-FAN # 371 SITTING TENANTS raised a few important points that have been ignored or forgotten lately. Maybe with the number of mutants springing up, XAVIER is beginning to realize that his resources are almost hopelessly over-
-stretched. Much as he wants to, he can't possibly go into battle with the X-MEN AND taken charge of every potential new mutants who appears. It just ain't possible. I agree with CHRIS BUTLER - the X-MEN should move to another location & XAVIER should counter anti-mutant feeling with the founding of an organisation to look after the interests of mutants & prevent them wandering into the HELLFIRE CLUB's sphere of influence. One man can only do so much & as BRIAN MORGAN's article pointed out, this particular man is letting selfish interests overlay his responsibil-
-ities. Its a bit late to decide his 'life's work' isn't worth bothering with. My initial reation to JEAN ROGERS' article was, 'Here we go again...', but she does have a valid complaint. The use of women as sex objects is so ingrained in our society however that I doubt if it'll ever change. Heck, I wasn't even aware of 'good girl art' until I read an article in DAREDEVILS! It takes a bit of doing to look at such'norms' & see them for what they are. Mind you, it does annoy me when artists go ga-ga & like little school-boys draw scantily-clad females at every opportunity; HEAVY METAL is a perfect example. Who the hell could leap around in a metal bikini anyway?!! OK, let the guys have their fantasies, but how about female fantasies, eh ?? More loin-clothes, hairy chests & page 3 males!!! (I could do with a laugh). **TRY A COPY OF RICH CORBEN'S 'NEVERWHERE' - THE TITLE SUMS UP WHATE THE LEAD MALE CHARACTER, DEN, IS DRESSED IN SHOWING HIS ALL & SUNDRY**

Hey, the SELF-RIGHTEOUS X-MEN took me by surprise. This is mainly cos I only read the last few pages of PHOENIX when I bought it. 'Twas speedily rectified & by CROM, the differences are greatly apparent! PHOENIX reads as if the writer had written it too heavily & moralistic. # 137 was then re-written in a frame of mind evoked by what had gone before & the direct consequences of those events & thoughts.

As for the self-righteous ideals being held up as an example, its a trend that rightly should not be ignored. Such an attitude is used as an excuse by countless fictional & real people to justify their actions. Look at VIETNAM, the FALKLANDS or American aid to the IRA - all examples of people pushing their views of what is 'right' on others. Self-righteous leads to blinkered interference & bigotry, no matter the high 'ideals' behind it.

LORRAINE GOODISON'84

X-FAN # 367 When I first discovered BILL SIENKIEWICZ was going to do the art on the NMs, my reaction was, 'Oh no! Now we're going to get loads of moody strips with super-
-natural mystic themes. Well, this will show if I'm right on this one. If I am, it is a stuff I shall depreciate. Supernatural elements are fine in themselves as long as they remain in a supernatural environment. Too often I fell that magic is used as an easy way out for a tricky situation & leads to lazy plotting. For this reason I wasn't too keen on ILLYANA being a sorceress either. After all, she has a perfectly useful mutant power as it is.

Anyway, back to SIENKIEWICZ. Could I be right in assuming you don't think he can draw recognisable NMs ?? I must admit they're becoming difficult to identity.

Incidentally, a friend of mine mentioned the other day he's identified a SIENKIEWICZ pose. This consists basically of looking at the person from below while they lean back slightly. Now onto the wider issues involved. I resent this type of manipulation presumably to boost sales. Dare I suggest a similar ploy in making BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH penciller of the X-MEN ?? If an artist is assigned to a comic it should be because his style suits the characters & script not because he is a fan fave who will attract the ever-faithful followers of the latest trend. Anyway, overall, someone's going to make a lot of money out of this. Probably the back-issue dealers in a few years time. As for the lemming mentality, this is something I'm constantly aware of whenever I pick up a new title. Am I buying this because its good or because someone else says its good, or even worse because someone wants me to think its good. Hopefully, I haven't been taken in yet - famous last words, but there's always a first time. BRIAN MORGAN'84

X-FAN # 70 The artwork on the cover of NMs # 20 was atrocious & why have a western character in the face panel top left ?? What is the point of putting a SPIDER-MAN face bottom left as there's no sign of him in it either. The artwork inside was lousy as well - not as clear. I don't think much of the X-MEN # 186 cover either, but at least the artwork inside was better. How are we supposed to know that thing is a picture of WARLOCK (NM# 21 cover) when it is his first appearance. **MAYBE ITS THERE FOR TIMES TO COME, TO ACKNOWLEDGE WHEN THIS WAS HIS FIRST APPEARANCE.**

I was really surprised to read that it was GUARDIAN that died, especially as it looked as if it might be SNOWBIRD. But to announce that one of them was to die was just tacky commercialism to sell more issues. **BROUGHT ABOUT BY AN INTERVIEW BY JOHN BYRNE IN AMAZING HEROES RATHER THAN MARVEL THEMSELVES.** It will be a long time before HEATHER comes to terms with the loss. SHAMAN is right. You need a funeral or some sort of ceremony to be able to accept death & to say goodbye & start life anew. I didn't know UNUS had died; & what a sad way to go. Surely he didn't deserve such an end - to be suffocated by his own force field gone awry. JILL THOMAS'84

X-FAN # 481 While the cover wasn't the best that has appeared, I suppose that it was OK. The majority of the issue was taken up by 2 subjects: X-PLETIVES & the 'adultness' of present-day comics. The next part of my letter is about the latter. If you are against swearing in comics, ask yourself this simple question - do you yourself swear ?? If the answer is 'Yes' - then ask yourself where you picked this 'habit' up from. The answer to the first will probably be yes & to the second: Friends or parents, NOT comics. It is a part of society that cannot be avoided. It is natural to swear when mad or hurt & to a certain extent, when you are excited. A lot of people swear, even if it is the word 'bloody' or some such - it is still swearing. **IT ALSO DEPENDS ON SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF SWEARING. THE AMERICANS USE 'BUGGER' EVEN IN THE COMICS, BUT THEY DON'T REGARD THAT AS SWEARING, WHEREAS THEY DO TREAT BLASPHEMY AS ON OUTRAGE WHICH WOULD QUICKLY GET CENSORED. QUESTION: IS SWEARING & BLASPHEMY ONE & THE SAME OR SHOULD THEY BE DIFFER--ENTIATED BETWEEN ?? Some people did pass on some stupid questions in the SURVEY - now how could they do it ?? Its impossible. The SITTING TENNANTS article mirrored my own thoughts on the subject. A classic example that could go with this article would be NMs# 21, although it might be going in tandem with X-MEN # 187 - although I doubt this very much.

JAMIE WOODCOCK'84

X-FAN # 501 PAUL 'MR. DETAIL' CHOKRAN's front cover was excellent, though it made KITTY look like a dwarf next to ROGUE, who is quite small herself. The colours suited it well...Very nice. By the way, nobody seems to be pleased now that PROFESSOR XAVIER is an active X-MAN now or that he wears a super-hero type costume. Well, I for one, am glad that he's an X-MAN & that he's not wearing a suit or something in the middle of a fight. I loved the 'SOAP' style NMs take-off on page 47, now could you tell me who did it ?? I couldn't quite make out the signature at the top. **YOUR EXCELLENT COVER ARTIST, MR. C.**

Anyway, back to PROFESSOR X. I admit that he's a good leader & I really do like him, but I prefer STORM in everyway. Let XAVIER remain the teacher & ORORO the team leader.

The RACHEL storylines are wonderful. I wonder if anyone else would like her to remain in our time ?? I know I would. She hasn't been a super-hero for years & probably wouldn't work well in the X-MEN straight away, so could train with the NMs. Also, the X-MEN already HAVE a telepath - so there would be little point in adding her to the X-MEN. **HER PRINCIPAL POWER IS TELEKINESIS ACTUALLY. THE FACT THAT SHE IS ALSO A TELEPATH TENDS TO MAKE THE REVERSE TRUE & FAVOUR HER OVER XAVIER. I WOULD LOVE TO SEE 2 MUTANTS WITH IDENTICAL ABILITIES ON THE TEAM MYSELF - THEIR INTELLECTUAL & EMOTIONAL DIFFERENCES ALONE WOULD DIFFERENTIATE THEIR APPLICATION OF POWERS.**

I'm hoping that, for some reason, RACHEL will bump into 5 year-old FRANKLIN RICHARDS - her dead lover in the future.That would be very touching & interesting. Finally, RAI DAVIES' letter in the X-PLETIVES. All he did was moan! Well, that's not

'I WISH LOGAN-SAN WOULD KINDLY REFRAIN FROM USING THE DINNER GUESTS FOR SPARRING PRACTICE." ©MARVEL

exactly true, but he certainly did a LOT of moaning though. If he disagrees with certain things, that's upto him ...I mean, I often moan a lot. But... One thing that really got on my nerves was his calling some of the X-PLETIVES letters 'Juvenile & embarrassing'. Well, what the heck has he got to be embarrassed about ??? The fact that he writes boring letters ?? (Not really, parts of his letter was really interesting, but most wasn't). Any--way, RAI, don't think I'm trying to be horrible, but lots of 13 year-olds can't help speaking (or writing) their mind & I'm one of them... As are you, obviously (though I get the feeling that you're over 13!).

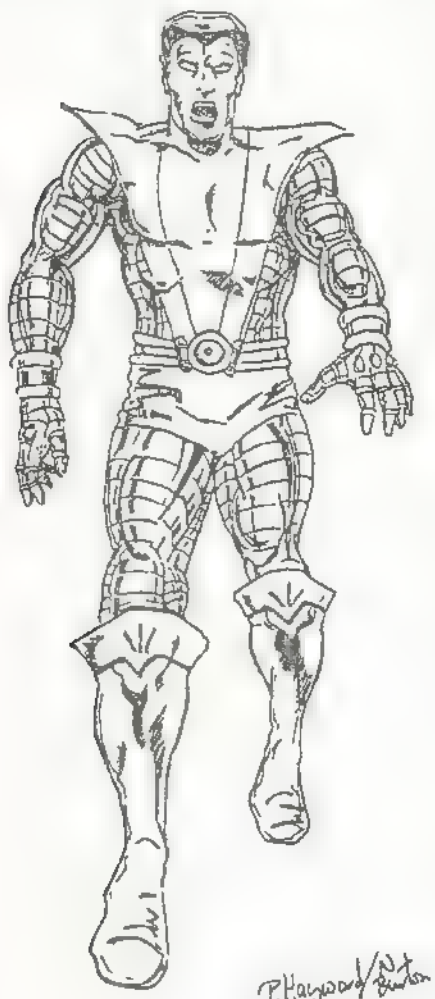
DANIEL NOQUET'84

TWICE THAT & MINUS TWO.

X-FAN # 186 The corrupted one is currently rising towards becoming one of my favourite people, but I am dismayed (nay astounded) to discover from the SURVEY that so many people are (musically anyway) critical non--entities. The SURVEY itself is a great thing (particularly for idiot number crushers comme moi) & the point of chacun à son goût is perhaps the only true proverb in the world. **EVERYONE TO HIS TASTE.**

Many of the musicians I like can fill the NEC for X nights anyway so why should I force my views on you?? If you want taste though, there's always me'n'ROBERT NOTT to agree with.

One very pleasant thing about # 20 was the high level of discussion of morality in comics. It seems apparent that the vast majority of members have views in the middle range & any reactionaries around are well dug in. I think most would agree that although censorship is necessary, it is pretty harmless because if you don't have the imagination & you want to become perverted, there are plenty of routes available to you (AMERICAN FLAGG for one).



Talking about reactionaries (or I was a minute ago), a friend or a friend of a friend etc recently burnt all 9 of his RAINBOW albums simply because he read somewhere that RICHIE BLACKMORE was a little bit of a diabolist. There are 2 morals to this tale: 1. Reaction--aries have either an immunity to logic or money to burn - but even though their entitled to their own opinions, they are by'n'large idiots. 2. You shouldn't believe all you read in the papers.

Onto the X-MEN (cos it says here, X-MEN FAN CLUB), is it my imagination or does any--one else get the feeling that the whole FORGE/ORORO/WIDEAWAKE thing has been terribly rushed ?? Only 2½ issues after we meet FORGE we get a double-sizer in which he gets half the dialogue. I think it would have been better not to introduce FORGE until that ZAP!/ STORM is shot down & ROGUE escapes by the skin of her teeth. Then we'd get PROFESSOR X & KURT's concern & tension as was only seen in a small sequence. LIFEDEATH would have come 4 or 5 issues later. I would also like to know the theory &/or mechanics of this horrid little gun that through the wonder of technology can demutify someone, altering definitely the functions of their metabolism or in some cases their fabric (what would the gun do to NIGHTCRAWLER ??) in one ZAP!

Your point about NMs in the X-ETORIAL is fairly true, but really irrelevant. Does it matter if they make us buy the comic because its suddenly good ?? Before SIENKIEWICZ it was really bad, but now its really great. Surely its us manipulating them by buying # 1 - 3 then dropping it - forced them into bettering their product?? It boils down to the sort of question 'Is a print of the MONA LIZA inferior to the original ?' **BUT DO PEOPLE BUY FOR THE ART OR FOR THE CHARACTER(S) ?? MONA DOES HAVE QUITE AN ENCHANTING SMILE AFTER ALL.** Almost almost finally dept, especially for ROBERT NOTT, I am hereby mentioning PETER GABRIEL, TIM BALKE, KING CRIMSON, YES, IQ, ELP, HAWKWIND & QUEEN (who I saw, incidentally, from the FRONT ROW at the NEC on AUGUST 31).

Finally dept, I think you'll s see NOVEMBER before you see # 21.

STEVE PANKHURST'84

HOW TRUE.

X-FAN # 516 Wasn't # 20 good ?? Yes, it was great! The PHOENIX--CARLING (whatever that means) was good - it was even funny. However, the best part was on XAVIER's role with the X-MEN & NMs. I agreed that the NMs need a leader & a walking XAVIER is perfect. The X-MEN don't need him as they're (mostly) got several years experience behind them. Even KITTY has a reasonable amount of experience (& not with COLOSSUS, you sex-maniacs out there). XAVIER should leave the X-MEN & TEACH the NMs, TEAM AMERICA, etc. However, to have the X-MEN leave would be terrible. What do they then use as a base ?? They quit BERMUDA after ILLYANA grew up with BELASCO & I doubt they'd return or MAGNETO let 'em. Also, going underground might make people fear them more as terrorists are underground groups & they aren't

disliked as much as mutants. **WANNA BET ?? UNLIKE THE FF & THE AVENGERS, THE X-MEN'S BASE ISN'T WIDELY - OR EVEN NARROWLY - KNOWN, SO THE X-MEN ARE ALREADY REGARDED AS AN UNDERGROUND GROUP TO THE GENERAL MARVEL EARTH POPULATION**

PSI WARS. Now you can understand the American fear of mutants. A telepath (XAVIER, FROST), clairvoyant (DESTINY), power (MAGNETO), etc & you can see quite clearly why AMERICA (& probably RUSSIA) has PROJECT: WIDEAWAKE. **IF YOU CHECK OUT INCREDIBLE HULK # 258 - 259 YOU'LL SEE THAT THE SOVIETS HAD THEIR 'PROJECT:WIDEAWAKE' SOME YEARS BACK, ELIMINATING ANY DEVIANT MUTANTS SHORTLY AFTER BIRTH, KEEPING ONLY A SMALL HANDFUL DISCOV--ERED FOR THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED SUPER--GROUP.**

Now, we'll talk about the X-MEN. Have you seen ANNUAL # 8 yet - don't bother if you haven't. The art is terrible & even the good story couldn't salvage it. I thought ANNUAL # 7 was the pits, but I may be wrong. However, if the annuals are going down (& rapidly it seems) the regular issues are surpassing excellance. The FORGE/WRAITH/ STORM losing her powers/RACHEL plotline is great. I don't like STORM's loss of her powers but I hope she continues to play a role in the X-MEN (even if WOLVERINE has to teach her even more gun/martial arts). RACHEL is the new PHOENIX - after all, she is (will ??) be the daughter of SCOTT & JEAN in an alternative reality (Hey! Does the WATCHER read this ?? Maybe we can get him to tell us more in a WHAT IF? ??). In addition, she could replace XAVIER in the X-MEN, or more likely help the NMs.

Well, well. Who'd have guessed HEATHER would join ALPHA FLIGHT as leader ?? I didn't. I expected her to join & PUCK to lead. More 'sinister' is what SASQUATCH is doing to AURORA (not that, you dirty old men, we don't see any of that, I mean in the lab experiment at the end of # 17). Remov--ing her mutant power, I can see as plausible (afterall, it happened to STORM) but to return it as a mutate power is a bit far-fetched (almost as much as a heiress who survives being mauled by a crocodile after her tennis-star husband pushes her in). I liked the glimse of new costume though.

MARTIN FISHER says he dislikes the MORLOCKS. I like them but would like to know how CEREBRO couldn't find them prior to X-MEN # 169. While we're talking about CEREBRO, how come it hasn't warned the X-MEN of the HELLFIRE mutants (HELLIONS, WHITE QUEEN, etc) ?? **THEIR DEFENCE SYSTEMS ARE GEARED TO HIDE SIGNALS, ALTHOUGH BLANK SIGNALS

THEMSELVES ARE OF COURSE, A REASON FOR SUSPICION OF SOMETHING ODD.** Finally, a few suggestions. Please reprint the entire X-MEN INDEX as a single volume (updated if necessary). Why not print an X-INDEX of all the X-MEN (or maybe mutant appearances) to date in each issue. PETER PHILLIPPS'84

X-FAN ≠ 472 Well, here's my first letter to CEREBRO, & it shouldn't be my last. A few points to raise: The first being X-MEN ≠ 186. What a waste of BARRY SMITE! CLAREMONT seems of late to be using a lot of padding (I've asked for this, no doubt most of you out there disegree). I know a comic shouldn't be heroes vs villains punch-ups every issue. It just looks as though he uses fill-in issues to keep us guessing as to the main plot; possibly he's trying to drag it out till X-MEN ≠ 200 ?? Take a look at ≠ 182 - he could have condensed this by half. The same with ≠ 183. There should be an even balance of dialogue & action but it seems as if the action has taken a bit of a dive. Still, lets hope CLAREMONT pulls his finger out (plop!) soon. If he's finding it difficult to come up with a competent plot each issue, he should have a co-writer. No shame in this, CHRIS.

What happened to the costume COLOSSUS was wearing on the cover of ≠ 183 ?? Inside he still had his old costume, then in ≠ 184 makes a refer--ence to his new costume. From what I saw of it, its just a red tunic & bootees! BORING! What next ?? WOLVERINE in a string vest ??
THAT WAS IN X-MEN ≠ 118.

NIGHTCRAWLER in striped boxer shorts ?? Or KITTY in a pair of y-fronts ?? CLIFF POOLEY'84

X-FAN ≠ 491 SURVEY'84 was interesting. I was surprised to see the average age reading CEREBRO was 20.3. I thought it would have been around 16.

I totally agree with MICROVERSE JUSTICE & the UNTOLD SELF-RIGHTEOUS X-MEN - great read. I didn't like GODS OF LIGHT & VAMPIRES - just doesn't interest me. When I got to STEVE PANKHURST's letter...It just made made me feel sick. I read the first paragraph & just couldn't go on. What a smart ass. I agree that the X-MEN FAN CLUB should be conf--ined to X-MEN topics. That's what we buy it for, isn't it ??

I, for one, didn't like the SECRET WARS, mainly because of MIKE ZECK & JIM SHOOTER eg LOGAN's face on the cover of ≠ 3 - what a smile - & on page 9 of the same issue, panel 2, WOLVERINE says, 'ROGUE is an X-MAN now! Anybody gives her a hard time, I'll slice 'em to ribbons.' It kind of reminds me of DAREDEVIL ≠ 196 - hate it! DON DALTON'84
GOSH, I'D HATE TO RECEIVE A HATE GRUDGE JUST BECAUSE YOU DISLIKED 2 PANELS.

X-FAN ≠ 386 The SURVEY results were interesting, if only because I discovered that I'm NOT an average Club member - at least not as far as SECTION ONE goes. I was amazed to see HARD ROCK & HEAVY METAL so far down in the musical preferences - not because I'm a fan of these, but more because whenever bands are mentioned by name, it always seems to be the supergroups & axe heroes that keep cropping up. Film & TV tie-in second ? Comedy & instrum--ental joint third ? Surely, GEOFF, doth jest! Are we being infiltrated by SECRET SKY fans (shudder!).

All this business of censorship & 'responsible' adults dictating what children can or cannot read seems pretty mindless to me. When it comes down to 'slapstick' violence in comics like DANDY & BEANO being suppressed, I think its being allowed to go too far. If the blank slate theory has any credence, then what happened to me ?? I've been reading violent super-hero comics all my life, even when very young & I'm a pacifest. I think the majority of kids know that they're only reading fiction (but then again, how many full-grown fans believe that CORONATION STREET really exists ?? **LOTS APPAR--ENTLY. YOU CAN TELL BY THE NUMBER OF BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CARDS THE CHARACTERS - NOT THE ACTORS - RECEIVE OR HOW THEY AREN'T EVEN THOUGHT OF BY THEIR REAL NAMES BUT AS THE CHARACTERS PORTRAYED.**

I would actively encourage any kid of mine to read comics, if only out of the knowledge of what superb entertainment he/she will draw from the experience. ROGER GIBSON'84

X-FAN ≠ 514 WHO ARE THEY DEFENDING was an extremely interesting piece of work. Personally, I've never been a DEFENDERS fan. For some reason they used to be pretty popular, even here in the form of reprints & I can remember forcing myself to read what appeared to be crap! & indeed was! Even the great SIENKIEWICZ covers & the appearance of ICEMAN, BEAST & ANGEL failed to evoke any sort of notion in me that I should buy it: This could partly be due to the bad artwork & to the age-old idea I have of the book - I'm bias from the start. After PAUL HAYWARD's article however, I just may give the book a go. Oh, by the way, I hate the idea of geriatric GARGOYLE with gargantuan strength & patheitically small wings which we're meant to believe can lift him aloft. I can just imagine the writers of the DEFENDERS thinking out GARGOYLE... '& yeah, we could make this GARGOYLE have different values & morals to the other members. We could make him feel real paranoid that he's an alien misfit in society & just think how many panels we could fill with this really crap character asking himself really deep questions like, "But do I belong here ??" It'll really make the book sell because the public will think, "Wow! What charac--terisation!" & we'll make a bomb.' Personally, I think there are too many 'stupid' characters in the comics who are, ultimately, very unrealistic & totally unbelievable. I hate the NMs because they don't play DIRTY tricks on each other & if such

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tricks are played, they come out with pathetic jibes such as, 'Och, you shouldna done that. He's a human being just like you & has a right to decide whether or not he wants to sit down on a chair covered in tacks...' God, its so irritating. TOM FARNHILL'84
BUT IF YOU SURVIVE POTENTIAL LIFE/DEATH SITUATIONS AS A GROUP YOU DO TEND TO 'MATURE' AWFULLY QUICK ABOVE SUCH 'JOKING'. IF YOU GENUINELY CARE FOR SOMEONE THAT'S THE LAST THING YOU WOULD DO." GARGOYLE, BY THE WAY, PROBABLY ONLY USES HIS WINGS FOR GUID--ANCE & GRAVITONS DO THE REST

X-FAN # 469 Concerning quest--ion 2, section 4 of the SURVEY, my newsagent stocked nothing but DC for over 3 years but now I've persuaded him to get in the MARVEL titles. Also from the SURVEY in question, sir, you asked what appeal MARVEL has that DC hasn't. My personal opinion is that MARVEL heroes tend to be able to lead a more 'normal' life. After all, when was the last time you saw SUPERMAN walking around his home in his under--wear as SPIDER-MAN often does.
TERRY WEBSTER'84
OR SEE HIM SHAVE, FOR THAT MATTER. SUPES HAS A REASON NOT TO, BUT I RECKON BATMAN MUST CARRY DOMAC IN HIS ULTILITY BELT.

X-FAN # 87 The VIDEO NEWSSHEET sounds interesting. What direction do you see this going in, GEOFF?? **FOR STARTERS IT WOULD BE A LOT EASIER IF I ONLY HAD MORE THAN 3 MEMBERS TELLING ME THAT THEY'D BUY IT - LET ALONE GETTING THE NECESSARY CONTRIBUTORS FOR IT.**
Re: APPEAL - this was a shock. I had no idea that I'd sent in that many stamps (do you really count them all ?? It must take ages!). Good to see so many members contributing - tho' with 200 or more not, perhaps a bit of a nudge is called for, eh ?? With this in mind, I think the GUIDE-DOG idea you put forward is just right. To have a definite target/goal to achieve to finance the dog's training as opposed to a vague donation to a charity would be the spur to more Club membership involvement. STEVE MARTIN'84

X-FAN # 211 I like to make a few comments on SURVEY84. I was wonde--ring why in q1 you state you were not going to give anybody's age away, but in q3 you go & give mine away. Now, when I become rich & famous, I won't be able to lie about my age. Infact, now I don't think I'll bother. **THERE. I CLENSED YOUR SOUL AT THE SAME TIME. BUT SERIOUSLY, I DIDN'T CONNECT THE 2 ANSWERS WHEN I WAS TYPING. 'SIDES YOU AREN'T THE ONLY 34 YEAR OLD IN THE CLUB.**
Anyway, I was probably reading comics before 7, such as BEANO & DANDY & I think there was one called ROBIN. The first American comics I read were a DC one with the FLASH turning fat by GRODD & a WORLDS FINEST with SUPERMAN & BATMAN up against DUO or DUPLICATE MAN. So if anybody out there knows when these came out could they let me know in the next X-PLETIVES.
I ALWAYS FIND IT RATHER AMUSING HOW MANY OF US WHO STARTED IN THE 60s STARTED OFF WITH A JIMMY OLSEN OR A LOIS LANE COMIC TO GET INTO OUR ADDICTION.
Now, back to this ABSOLUTE POWER business. I never said I would do away with man's aggression.
Just do away with weapons that would not only kill a few aggressive people but a lot of innocent non-aggressive people. I would let aggressive people use their fists but seeing I had ABSOLUTE POWER make sure the innocent would not be harmed.
WHY NOT SET UP A BATTLEZONE & SEND ALL THOSE WHO WANT TO FIGHT THERE. MOST MAJOR WARS ARE BASED ON TERRITORIAL RIGHTS WITH WAR SETTLING THE DISPUTE. THESE DAYS, THE MAJOR POWERS DO IT MORE SUBTLY WITH TRADE NEGOTIATIONS & FINANCIAL AID.
I did not find the MICRO-UNIVERSE story established the entity was a doppleganger. The only differences between XAVIER/ENTITY & JEAN GREY/DARK PHOENIX was the ENTITY was of XAVIER's own making. JEAN's was caused by MASTERMIND. **ALL MASTERMIND DID WAS CONCEIVE THE BLACK QUEEN PERSONA FOR JEAN GREY UNDER THE MISAPPREHENSION THAT HE WAS DEALING WITH MARVEL GIRL WITH A NEW NAME & COSTUME. DUAL PERSONALITIES HAVE BEEN PREVALENT IN BOTH MUTANTS PRIOR TO THIS EG XAVIER'S GOES BACK AS FAR AS X-MEN # 17.** As it is, I agree with GRAHAM SIM & feel dual standards are being operated by MARVEL. At this point I would like to thank GRAHAM SIM for his article which echoed a lot of my feelings more eleqiently than I could.
Why was LIFEDEATH made a double issue ?? Was it suppose to be earth-shattering ?? X-MEN should be action & plot with romantic by-lines, not vice versa. After saying the above, CHRIS, you didn't half put the willies up me when I thought the DIRE WRAITHS looked as though they were going to kill VAL. Thank goodness the conclusion was on another page so I could not glance across & skip the surprise.
BARRY HOLLAND'84

X-FAN # 247 I was interested in the BLUE SIDE OF THE MOON, but as I do not know one thing about role-playing games, I can't really see how the outcomes were worked out. Perhaps you can fill me in. **CERTAINLY, SIR, WOULD YOU LIKE QUICKLIME OR CEMENT ??**
Speaking of games, I recently bought the SCOTT ADAMS HULK ADVENTURE GAME for my SPECTRUM computer. Its driving me bloody MAD! The graphics are excellent & there is a new picture drawn on practically each command. But whenever I get into this underground room, I can never get out again. Perhaps some other X-FANS have played the game & could give me some tips on how to get out.
Do any X-FANS live around the CHELMSFORD/BRENTWOOD area ?? If so, could they get in touch. Thanks. ANDY CHESTERS'84
'TASTLE' COTTAGE, KILLIGREWS, LONDON ROAD, MARGARETTING, INGATESTONE ESSEX CM4 0EY.

X-FAN # 411 DAVE ROACH echoes my views entirely on the point of violence in comics. Other than the few odd writers ('odd' meaning not many, rather than weird - don't want to cause to much trouble), violence & fighting is/has been treated unrealistically for years. While mentioning that article, I noticed a small mention of violence on American TV. I think that American programmes of today eg A-TEAM, KNIGHT RIDER, et al (the so-called violent programmes) involve hardly any real violence at all.
FROM FIGURES THAT I'VE SEEN, BOTH ARE CITED AS BEING STILL TOO VIOLENT TO BE SHOWN ON AMERICAN TV.
Infact, they are nothing up against such things as THE SWEENEY, THE PROFESSIONALS & TARGET. All these prog--rammes had people either being shot every week or ending up with bruised or bloodied faces. Changing again, I remember seeing a programme called POLICE SQUAD IN COLOR, a hilarious spook on cop stories where the lead man had a long fight with 2 villains & after he had won was not even scratched, until he ducked below the screen (were--wolf style) & re-appeared with bruises, cuts & scratches & a black eye, only for them to disappear when the camera view changed. This to my mind shows what normal, serious (?) programmes are like. Someone will get injured, only to be running around with no sign of injury later on (or only a slight sign). This, I think, is wrong. Even more so, is the A-TEAM which, although it is a very enjoy--able programme (one of the best) has bullets flying all over the place without hitting anyone & car crashes where the occupants crawl out of totally wrecked vehicles, only slightly dazed. Oh well, what the Americans do for entertainment.

ESPECIALLY THEN THEY CONVEY VIOLENT TV SHOWS AT TIMES KIDS ARE BOUND TO WATCH & KNOW THAT THEY'LL ALSO GET PLAGUED BY THE 'PRESSURE GROUPS' LIKE THE ILL-NAMED 'MORAL MAJORITY. I'M JUST AMAZED HOW THE A-TEAM NEVER KILLED ANYONE IN VIETNAM.

The best part of this CEREBRO though,was the SURVEY. I have always been a statistic & information freak & so find this sort of thing (& the BREAKDOWNS) fascinating. What pleased me most about the SURVEY was that HILL ST BLUES was the 2nd favourite progra--mme. Not bad for something that is put on as almost the last show before close down & normally very irregular (in my area anyway).

Your guest for SECTION 2 was wrong (& I thought you were always right, like most great leaders). The newsagents in BEDFORD seem to stock MARVELS only. No DCs to be seen anywhere. **IT WOULD BE WORTH DOING A NATIONAL SURVEY & JUST SEE WHAT THE DISTRI--BUTION ACTUALLY IS. IT DOES SEEM BEDFORD IS EXCEPTIONAL THOUGH. I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO RIG A MINI-SURVEY FOR NEXT CEREBRO FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO TAKE PART.**

This shall be my view of why it seems that MARVEL is preferred to DC. I would say that there are probably 2 main reasons: -

1. That due to MARVEL GB - the first exper--iences you have with comics are of SPIDER-MAN, the HULK, etc. This could lead to see--ing a colour (USA type) SPIDER-MAN comic, buying & seeing there are more, maybe trying & lik.ing them.

2. Which is my own reason for preferring MARVEL (even though DC are fighting back now) & that is when I first discovered the American comics (around'78-79), the DC comics were a load of rubbish. BATMAN was the only one which interested me in the slightest, so I stuck to MARVEL. Only very recently have DC actually begun bringing out a wide range of good comics (ie ATARI FORCE, BLUE DEVIL, B&C, VIGLANTE, etc). Other than a couple of old heroes come good - GREEN LANTERN by WEIN & GIBBONS & the FLASH since he murder--ed(?) REVERSE-FLASH, all the best DC comics are new - begun in the last couple years. SIMON WHITE'84

X-FAN ≠ 216 The SURVEY results were interesting but if fan-to-fan comm--unication is encouraged how come no addresses are published unless they're new members or renewed. Hmm..Renewal should eventually get around to every--body. I envisioned though, a pen pal list type by what was said on the subject. TREVOR BALE'84

ITS MORE A QUESTION OF SPACE, ALTH--OUGH IF ANYONE WANTS THEIR ADDRESS PUT IN WITH AN X-PLETIVE, IT'S NORM--ALLY DONE OR THEY CAN SEND AN SAE & ASK ME.

X-FAN ≠ 518 Didn't like my article too much - it seemed too shallow with little to bite into. OBIT:GUARDIAN - HUDSON's death could make for some very interesting plots. AF was always very loosely knit & the death of their leader should make them even more so - most of them don't even like each other. Did anybody else feel cheated by the presence of WOLVERINE on the cover of ≠ 13 & the use of the X-MEN like shadows (including wheelchair) a few months back ?? BYRNE seems to be getting a lot of milage out of surr--ogate X-people. Anyway, I hope we .. see more of HEATHER's dilemma & incr--eased use of SHAMAN - my favourite ALPHA. The CASE FOR MAGNETO - yeah, old MAGGIE is a lot more likeable these days. I'd like to see the X-MEN defend him against the Government in a future issue. I wonder if humanity's attitude to mutants would have been altered if MAGNETO had always been the character he is now ?? What if he'd taken over the base in ≠ 1, destroyed all the weapons & left ?? I suppose he'd still be seen as a threat; in--fact, that might have started the anti-mutant hysteria off.

Incidentially, a thought occured to me reading MICROVERSE JUSTICE.PHOENIX was killed because her dark side was too powerful. Since every person has at least the capability for an evil side, does this mean that all super--heroes should have at least 'the equivalent of the psionic lobotomy which PHOENIX would have suffered'. Off the top of my head, the following heroes have 'gone bad' - ANT-MAN (AVENGERS ≠ 161), the HULK (≠ 298), HAWKEYE (early IRON MAN), VISION (AVENGERS ≠ 66). Infact, I can think of occasions for every major MARVEL hero. This helps the Government pos--ition - they must legistate against this huge potential menace.

I completely disagree with ROSS COWIN over the MAGIK series. I found it fascinating, especially as regards the characters of STORM & KITTY. I was caught up with the series & alth--ough I knew its eventual ending, I still looked forward to the next issue more than most comics. Overwritten ?? In what way, ROSS ?? I found it an intelligent comic from a very capable author. I thought ROSS was right on about the MU HANDBOOK though. I thought it was exploitation with very little merit & almost no artistic value - as pin-ups they were static & drab. Surely any would-be artist knows how to drew SPIDER-MAN, etc. PAUL HAYWARD'84

THEY NEVER CLAIMED THEM TO BE PIN--UPS IN MARVEL AGE, MERELY REFERENCE GUIDES. IF YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING OF THIS NATURE YOU CAN'T LEAVE OUT THEIR MAIN STARS.

X-FAN ≠ 573 In answer to your comments in your editorial about NMs & its sudden favourtism, you missed one reason which may explain its popularity & that is that its now a better book than it used to be. I'm now buying the book because SIENKI--EWICZ is now drawing. I'm not buying it because its now a fan favourite but because I think that its a much better book (its actually my favourite MARVEL now followed by POWER PACK). The effect that SIENKIEWICZ has had on the book is magic, giving it a mood & style all of its own. **I DON'T DENY THAT. BUT ISN'T 'FAN FAVOURITE' & FAVOURITE ARTIST SORT OF SYNONYMOUS ??** It was good to see some clear answers to SEAN ROBERTS' COMICS FOR KIDS article. Especially interesting was MARTIN FISHER's MORALLY SPEAKING article. I totally agree with his arguements on blasphemy in comics. As an atheist I find it constantly annoying when certain Christians blithly assume that everybody in the UK is a Christian (eg the Lord's Day Observance Society is probably the worst offender). I disagreed with JEAN ROGERS' article THE X-CERTIFICATE MAN & found many of the assumptions made about the various covers used as example to be invalid. When I first began to read it, I thought:'This could be a good article'. But when I reached the line: 'But pin-up, say the cover of ≠ 177 & your fantasies are likely to be unsuitable for family viewing'. After checking, I found that the cover depicts WOLVERINE standing over a dead KITTY with his claws extended. The basic impression I got from this was WOLVERINE has found KITTY dead. If you can read perverted thoughts into that cover, then you can do the same for SPIDEY ≠ 252, which was used an an example of an 'OK' cover. No way do I see KITTY being treated as some sex object as is put forward in the article. To be honest, I found this view quite ludicrous.

≠ 177's FANTASY INTERPRETATION WASN'T SO MUCH SEXUAL, BUT THAT OF A DESIRE SOME MEMBERS HAVE EXPRESSED IN EARLIER CEREBROS AS TO HAVE TO DO WITH KITTY.

Moving onto the covers of ≠ 163 & 168, only the former could be said to be sexual in nature. Yet in both covers, the reader is identifying & siding with KITTY against the threat. This is especially true of ≠ 168 which shows KITTY's determination & fighting spirit. I think that JEAN ROGERS is reading something into those covers which is not really there. I feel I must make a comment on the SECRET WARS comic: YUK!! This comic is bad. JIM SHOOTER has finally proved just how bad he can write comics. While BOB LAYTON astounds me, I didn't realize that he could draw so badly. The comic has surprised me in many ways. I would not have believed after ≠ 1 it could get worse, yet it gradually gets worse as each new comic comes out. If it continues at its current rate, ≠ 12 should be the worst MARVEL comic of all time. What makes all this worse, is that it is currently the top selling american title, even selling 33% more than the X-MEN. SCOTT HUGHES'84

IN COMPARISON, I THOUGHT DC's 'SUPER POWERS' MINI-SERIES WOULD COME EVEN LOWER THAN 'YUK!' WITH SUCH A COP-OUT ENDING.

X-FAN ≠ 404 Mainly, I was puzzled/amused & then concerned by the article MORALLY SPEAKING. I re-read the original article, WOULD YOU LET YOUR KIDS READ COMICS, & became utterly bewildered. SEAN was commenting in the pros & cons of censor--ship. MARTIN sudddenly goes off into the cons (as he sees them) of religion.

First, my thoughts on censorship. I believe it to be very necessary in our world. Everything that I see has been censored by my eyes so that I only deal

with a limited amount of infor-
-mation at any one time. Imagine 'seeing' every particle of dust in your line of sight! The detail would undoubtably overwhelm us. **I MUST ASK HEIMDELL THAT, THE NEXT TIME I'M ON THE RAINBOW BRIDGE.**

Censorship of records, comics, books, magazines, etc is also necessary. It is the democratic right of every human being to say what he, she or it wants. It is also the right of these same people to ignore the statements made by others.

I, personally, do not like motorcycles. Can I then demand that motorcycle magazines are banned from my newsagents ?? No! Because there are many people who like read-
-ing about motorcycles (or just like the pictures). Can the same be said about 'men's magazines', KUNG-FU magazines & all other special interest material that is available ?? I feel that ALL material SHOULD be available, but only to people who are able to make a deliberate choice about what they want to see, read or think about. If this means restrict-
-ing the age at which a person can buy a magazine, so be it. If it means limiting the number of outlets for the material, so be it. But let the material be available.

As for 'corrupting' children. How long have little boys (& girls) played at cow-
-boys & indians or 'war'?? Isn't this violence on a grand scale ??! More so than 'SPIDER-
-MAN knocking out a felon'. Some of the greatest classics in literature revolve around humanity(sex & violence). ROMEO & JULIET studied many years ago springs to mind: He is 17, she is 13 or 14 & enough bloodshed to satisfy SHYLOCK.

Censorship is a good thing if used thoughtfully. I don't want to be forced into reading motorcyle mags. Unfortunately, too much censorship infringes on civil rights, creates a black market & leads to sinis-
-ter dealings with definitely corrupt people.

On now to the second article & the heretical ramblings concerning religion. The Church of God is not a pile of bricks nor a vicar/priest/ conman preaching hypocritcally to a bunch of doddering senile wax tablets. The Church of God is people. Everyone. Everywhere. Unfortunately, there are too many human frailities in the lumbering structure that has come to exist. As for the major Christian religions not working together: RUBBISH. Mission England 1984 is/was an evange-
-lical event. Attempting to bring people & God's knowledge together. Anyone who heard of/ saw/went to a meeting by BILLY GRAHAM in one or other of the football stadiums that he used in MAY, JUNE or JULY will have seen this work. Anglicans (Church of England), Methodists, Baptists, Catholics & all the truly Christian churches throu-
-ghout the country had knowle-
-dge of this work & many sent parties of people to the meetings. Church-goers & non-believers & sceptics - everyone!

This was an'act of God' in extremis. As for the 'diseased mind' of God, I offer a short session in bible reading. Always remember that the Bible is the most ancient piece of literat-
-ure in the world. It is made up of several copies that have been rediscovered throghout the world. Science has proved its age & many of the events which are described. I ask those of you who take the time to read the references to consider the import of the words with care & deliberation:

DEUTERONOMY ch 31 verse 8
JOHN 1 ch 5 verses 14 &15
MATTHEW ch 21 verse 21
JOHN 1 ch 4 verses 1-3
JOHN 1 ch 5 verse 13.

The entire letter of JOHN contains the message of how to live your life.

I now move to less weighty matters, namely GEOFF's gift of ABSOLUTE POWER. I already know of someone who has the gift, namely my God. Would I change anything ?? Yes, I'd improve on man's efficient harvest of the sea. This would help to relieve the starving millions. I would also alter humanity so that it would become impossible to overpop-
-ulate the world. A woman would only have 2 or possibly 3 ova within her. This would hopefully enable humankind to set about the important problems besetting the Earth: Pollution, war & age. Using ABSOLUTE POWER to renov-
-ate the industry of the world. A workable nuclear power station with no waste! All countries would have what they need,would they try to obliterate each other ??

DAVE PAINTER'84

PROBABLY. JUST TO ESCAPE THE IDLENESS YOU'VE PRESENTED TO THEM. I'M NOT GOING TO TAKE TO TASK YOURS OR ANYBODY ELSE'S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AS I TEND TO BELIEVE THAT'S A PERSONAL THING. BUT I WILL GO ALONG WITH DAVE ALLEN'S BELIEF THAT IF GOD HAD CREATED A WORLD LIKE THIS HE MUST HAVE HAD ANARCHISTIC TENDENCIES.

X-FAN # 377 In answer to CHRIS BUTLER when the mansion was blasted, the NMs & TEAM AMERICA were yet to be discovered & ILLYANA RASPUTIN was on MAGNETO's island being looked after by DR CORBEAU & CAROL DANVERS.

Although TEAM AMERICA were treated rotten, we could have seen more of their training instead of the brief glimse. I gathered they didn't stay long because their skills & teamwork were more or less honed to start off with & they used the DANGER ROOM to get their act together.

If the PROF were to take in every budding genius, the mansion would soon be over-crowded, but in the case of DOUG RAMSEY he should have been taken in (or does he only take in super-
powered kids ??).

Onto ABSOLUTE POWER - does it come with a 5-year warrenty & will you be having a sale ??

PETER ALTOFT'84

MAYBE I SHOULD SALE IT WITH A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CLUB ?? AND-THAT'S IT....:UNTIL NEXT CEREBRO. LETS HEAR YOUR COMMENTS

CONTINUITY RULES-OK

In days of gore, there was born a universe populated with many wonderous beings, & those beings were called superheroes! The superheroes were fruitful & multiplied, most springing up only from writers' fevered imagination. They filled the universe, but the gods who ruled above were not pleased, for there was havoc & unconnected storylines amingst the populace. The gods put their heads together, & thus the god SHOOTER decreed that there would be a Law to control this chaos. And lo! The Law would be named: CONTINUITY!!

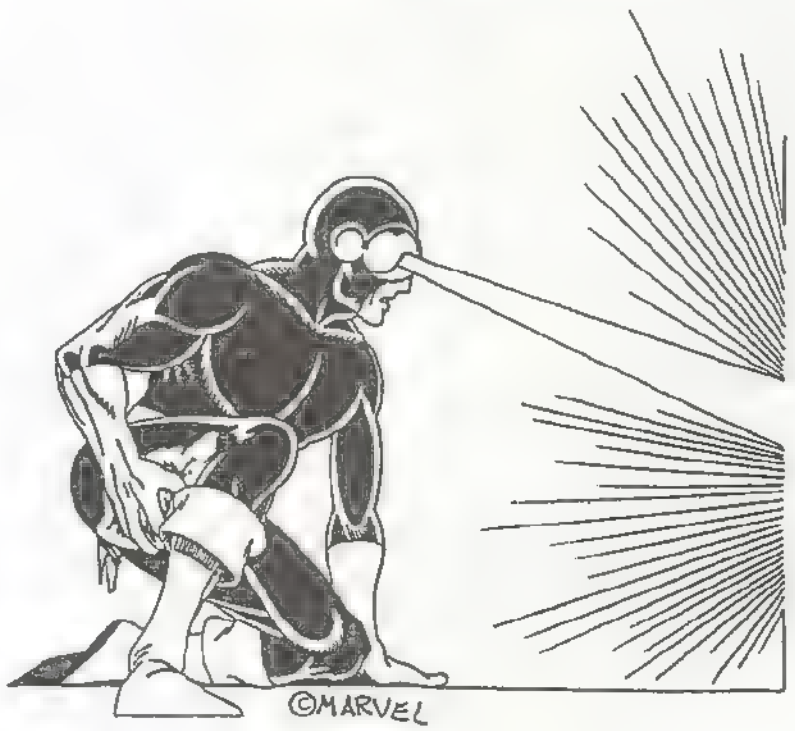
Joking apart, just what use is continuity ? Why apply it to the workings of an imaginary universe written about by different people with varied ideas about its characters ? A 'house style' should be enough, right ?? Maybe, but the bigger the game, the larger the book of rules. Any work of imagination or fact has to be linked to a solid base, & continuity is one of the posts connected to that basic frame. Think of the MARVEL UNIVERSE as one big on-going serial - no author worth her/his salt would dare write such an opus without making clear guidelines for each character, event & how they tie up. TOLKIEN's 'LORD OF THE RINGS' would not be nearly as strong if had not taken the trouble to create languages, cultures, law of nature unique to that universe, & even ancient history! OK, so TOLKIEN was an academic of no mean intellect, but that does not mean continuity of that kind cannot be used & applied elsewhere. In any such wide-ranging, inter-connected series as envisaged by MARVEL there must be continuity, or entropy sets in.

Wot's entropy, they cry ? Talking through a hole in her head, the others reply...Bear with me a minute, OK ? I don't know the exact scientific theories behind the entropy effect (ask GEOFF!?), but I understand it to mean increased disorder, which increases at a faster rate as the entropy spreads. Apply that to MARVEL's universe, & you can see why SHOOTER & Co. were anxious to get things straightened out. Lets face it, having CHRISTMAS at different times in each comic (or not at all), characters aging at different rates, villains popping up when they should be elsewhere, etcetera, was a bit silly anyway.

The introduction of continuity can only be a good thing. Its helped bring the SPIDER-MAN books into a cohesive whole for a start. Then the far-reaching effects of the casket opened in THOR was shown in X-MEN # 187,which at least helps the time element between issues. The DIRE WRAITHS are popping up everywhere, of course, which is only right since they are supposed to be over-running Earth & surely they don't restrict their attacks to ROM ?? Back to our favourite mutants & the implications of the ANTI-MUTANT ACT are causing, or will cause, some interesting ripples in other books. There's also the changes invoked by the SECRET WARS, but we'll have to wait for all the developments planned there. I, for one, would be interested to see the effects of some of DR. STRANGE's large mystic battles on other heroes, if only through a brief comment about the odd colour of the sky.

All in all, I think this continuity lark is a damn good idea. All hail the LAW OF CONTINUITY! Comments, anyone....??

LORRAINE GOODISON'84



MARVEL UNIVERSE HANDBOOK DATA BREAKDOWNS

ALIEN DATA BREAKDOWN

AN ALIEN IS AN INHABITANT OF/OR FROM ANOTHER PLANET WHO MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE VISITED THE EARTH (SOL 3).
THESE ALIENS MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE SUPER-NORMAL POWERS TO THEIR OWN SPECIES.

FULL DATA ON : 30

ANNIHILIUS	AQUARIAN	ARKON
BLASTARR	CHAMPION OF THE UNIVERSE	COLLECTOR
CONTEMPLATOR	DEATHBIRD	FIRELORD
GALACTUS	GARDENER	GLADIATOR(2)
GRANDMASTER	HYPERION	IMPOSSIBLE MAN
IMPOSSIBLE WOMAN	MARRINA	MERCURIO
OVERMIND	PSYCHO-MAN	RONAN THE ACCUSER
SHAPER OF WORLDS	SILVER SURFER	SPACE PHANTOM
STAR-DANCER	STARHAWK	STRANGER
SUPER-SKRULL	WATCHER	YONDU

HEROES	: 7	DUBIOUS HEROES	: 4	UNDECIDED	:
VILLAINS	: 5	DUBIOUS VILLAINS	: 3		
ADULTS	: 32				
MALES	: 28	FEMALES	: 3		
TOTAL HERO/MALE	: 9	TOTAL HERO/FEMALE	: 1		
TOTAL VILLAIN/MALE	: 7	TOTAL VILLAIN/FEMALE	: 1		

TALLEST HERO	: OVERMIND	(10ft)
SHORTEST HERO	: AQUARIAN	(5ft10ins)
TALLEST VILLAIN	: RONAN THE ACCUSER	(7ft 5ins)
SHORTEST VILLAIN	: DEATHBIRD	(5ft 8ins)
HEAVIEST HERO	: OVERMIND	(750 lbs)
LIGHTEST HERO	: AQUARIAN	(165 lbs)
HEAVIEST VILLAIN	: BLASTARR	(520 lbs)
LIGHTEST VILLAIN	: DEATHBIRD	(180 lbs)
TOP HERO PRESS WT	: HYPERION	(90 tons)
TOP VILLAIN PRESS WT	: SUPER SKRULL	(85 tons)

TOP EFFICIENCY WT/PRESS WT	: HERO	: FIRELORD	(0.2272)
TOP EFFICIENCY WT/PRESS WT	: VILLAIN	: ANNIHILUS	(0.2508)
TOP HERO FLIGHT SPEED	: HYPERION	(1700 mph)	
TOP VILLAIN FLIGHT SPEED	: BLASTARR	(2500 mph)	
TOP EFFICIENCY WT/FLT SPD	: HERO	: HYPERION	(1.5596)
TOP EFFICIENCY WT/FLT SPD	: VILLAIN	: BLASTARR	(4.8017)

ALIENS THAT CAN SURVIVE IN SPACE	: 14
ALIENS THAT CAN MANUPULATE COSMIC ENERGY	: 11
ALIENS WITH PSI ABILITIES	: 4
ALIENS WHO CAN SURVIVE IN SPACE	: 3
ALIENS WHO ARE SHAPE-SHIFTERS	: 3
ALIENS WHO ELDERS OF THE GALAXY	: 4

ALIENS WHO CAN TRAVEL AT THE SPEED OF LIGHT : 1
ALIENS WHO CAN TRAVEL NEAR THE SPEED OF LIGHT : 2
ALIENS WHO CAN TRAVEL AT SUB-LIGHT SPEED : 1

ALIENS FROM THE FOLLOWING GALAXIES :-

ANDROMEDA	: 4	KREE	: 1
MILKY WAY	: 7	NEGATIVE ZONE	: 1
SHI-AR	: 2	SUB-ATOMICA	: 2
ALIENS WITH UNDISCLOSED ORIGIN GALAXY			: 13

NB. OF THE UNDECIDED, GALACTUS IS BOTH THE TALLEST (28ft 9ins)
& THE HEAVEST (18.2tons).
OF THE UNDECIDED, CHAMPION OF THE GALAXY CAN PRESS 100tons.

PRESS WEIGHTS (tons)

1.	CHAMPION/UNIVERSE	100
2.	HYPERION	90
3.	SUPER-SKRULL	85
4.	RONAN THE ACCUSER	60
5.	ANNIHILIUS	50
6.	BLASTARR	50
7.	FIRELORD	50
8.	AQUARIAN	15
9.	MERCURIO	10
10.	OVERMIND	10
11.	STARHAWK	5
12.	ARKON	1.6
13.	MARRINA	0.3
14.	YONDU	0.2

EFFICIENCIES

1.	ANNIHILUS	0.2500
2.	FIRELORD	0.2272
3.	SUPER-SKRULL	0.1360
4.	RONAN THE ACCUSER	0.1250
5.	BLASTARR	0.0962
6.	AQUARIAN	0.0909
7.	HYPERION	0.0826
8.	CHAMPION/UNIVERSE	0.0488
9.	MERCURIO	0.0339
10.	OVERMIND	0.0133
11.	STARHAWK	0.0111
12.	ARKON	0.0040
13.	MARRINA	0.0015
14.	YONDU	0.0010

NB: GLADIATOR(2) HAS AN APPROXIMATE PRESS WEIGHT OF 89 tons
BUT IS OMMITED FROM ABOVE THROUGH NO KNOWLEDGE OF HIS
BODY WEIGHT OR EFFICIENCY.

FLIGHT SPEEDS (mph)

1.	BLASTARR	2500
2.	HYPERION	1700
3.	ANNIHILUS	150
4.	SUPER-SKRULL	140
5.	DEATHBIRD	63
6.	MERCURIO	40

EFFICIENCIES

1.	BLASTARR	4.8017
2.	HYPERION	1.5596
3.	ANNIHILIUS	0.7500
4.	DEATHBIRD	0.3500
5.	SUPER-SKRULL	0.2240
6.	MERCURIO	0.1360

NB: FIRELORD, SILVER SURFER, STARHAWK & STAR-DANCER CAN ALL
TRAVEL AT LIGHT OR NEAR LIGHT SPEEDS & SO ARE IGNORED
IN THE ABOVE FIGURES.

Gay's The Word

Yes. This is an article about gay : people. To be more precise, the portra--yal of gay people in comics.

'What portrayal ??' you may ask.

Well, as yet there have been no openly gay characters in comics (to my know--ledge) but there have been hints. Hints like in TEEN TITANS # 27, FANTASTIC FOUR # 251 (page 8), the 'appearance' of certain characters (& stereotypes) such as PYRO in X-MEN # 141 & perhaps one of our newest super-heroes, NORTH--STAR, is gay (as hinted in ALPHA FLIGHT # 10 page 21 & more recently in # 18 page 3).

Of course, GREY LANDERS never did turn out to be gay & probably neither will NORTHSTAR. So what ? Well, people do talk about a certain amount of realism in comics. Last CEREBRO saw the comments & opinions of Club members on the subject of morals & reality in reaction to SEAN ROBERTS' article in # 19. Well, on average, about 1 in 20 people are gay - I wonder how that would compare with a ratio of super-powered beings to 'normal' people in the comic world ??

But, of course, morals & realism are two conflicting things in comics. That is to say that where it would be realistic to portray gay women & men in comics, it wouldn't be morally accept--able seeing as comics are only meant for 'kids' & we can't have 'our' "kids" knowing about 'those' can we ?!

As the law stands in BRITAIN at present, gay men are only 'permitted' to have sex after the age of 21. As such, in this & many other countries, people - or rather society as a major--ity - tends not to mention gays(in a positive way). Indeed, in many count--ries, gay itself is a crime.

As well as the law, morally society has been against gay people as they are 'unholy', perverse', 'unclean', 'weak', 'ill', 'disgusting'.....the list of names is almost endless.

Nowadays, gay people have more free--dom than we used to, but still society doesn't fully accept us - legally we definitely aren't accepted as the law tends to think that gay people just 'appear' at 21 - obviously we have feelings as everyone else does, from birth onwards.

That aside, I suppose it is under--standable for gay people not to be portrayed in comics for fear of influe--ncing (or 'corrupting' maybe the word used) children.

Perhaps children would be more aware of what the word 'gay' meant & also of what alternaiive sexualities were though & not be given a false or bias image from the lack of information they receive. Obviously questions would be asked about it, but is that so bad ?? Does society want forever to suppress gay people (& other minorities) into a hidden life of unacceptability ??

OK, lets suppose that a gay character was portrayed now. How would she/he appear ? Originally, I think a gay character would have been stereo-typed heavily (ie gay men would have been limp-wristed camp men & gay women would have been tom-boyish tough girls). To a point stereo-typing in this 'drawn' form is still carried out ie by giving 'strong' people huge muscles & to distinguish a man from a woman to exaggerate the 'main outline'.
I think that this form of presentation has changed somewhat though, & it really depends upon how the writer creates the character & uses her/him in the plot & also how the artist interprets this image in a drawn form!

The 'hard' stereo-typing has changed. For example, no more (thank God) do we see nurses such as those portrayed in the SILVER SURFER episodes. Characters now aren't 'typical' shells - they have both depth. See how characters like MAGNETO & DR.DOOM have become more 'real' people - more believable.

Perhaps people now do not want a character they can read like a book, but a character who's perhaps more unpredictable - more realistic.

Society has had the opportunity to become more free, mostly by people committing them--selves to campaigning - EMILY PANKHURST, MARTIN LUTHOR KING, GHANDI, etc..

But, of course, as well as dedicated people, campaigns require communication. This is done mainly through the mass media (where possible). Comics are a form of entertainment but they do carry an element of political, social & moral messages also.

The opportunity to express minority opinion is therefore present in comics. Even moreso if one thinks of the position of mutants. They, like gay people, are a minority, are glighted by law (ie MUTANT AFFAIRS CONTROL ACT), many keep secret identities, their condition is quite quite natural & people's fears for them both are really unnecessary.

You maybe wondering just what I have been trying to say or what I hoped to achieve with this article ?" Well, I have noticed the word 'gay' & the mention of gay people in comics & wanted to make comment & say what I felt.

HEY, RAY, YOU HELPED ME BUST OUTTA THE JOINT, YA GOT ME THREADS, BREAD, A CLASSY PAD-- FER THAT I'M GRATEFUL.
WELL, LAH-DEE-DAH, CHUNKY. YOU THINK YOU CAN DO BETTER?
I JUST DON'T TAKE ORDERS FROM A BROAD.
BLOW IT OUT YOUR UNION JACK, LIMEY.

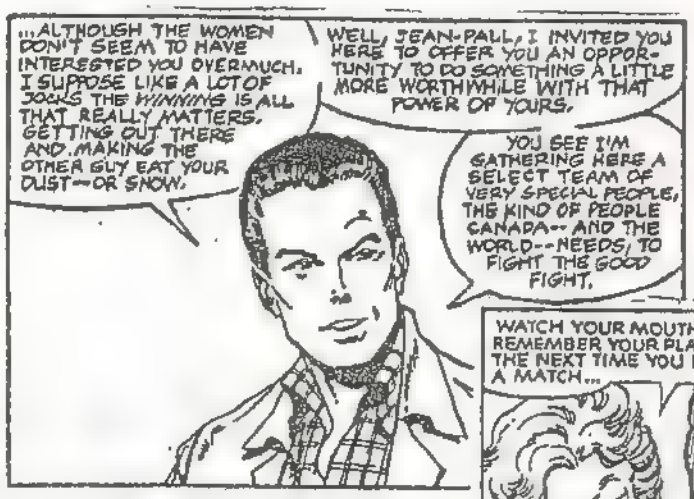
X-MEN # 141 - PYRO - a possible gay??
(c) MARVEL

Gay people are as much a part of society as anyone else. We are a minnority group & as such wish to show people that we aren't freaks & that we wish to gain basic rights we should be entitled to.

As comics have come some way in liberating women (although this may be debatable) & other minorities, then why not gay people ??

I think that probably there would remain mention in comics as there has been before, but unless society (BRITISH & others) changes its moral (& legal) views, little progress would be made in comics as long as 'gay' remains a controversial issue.

PETER T. WILDASH'84

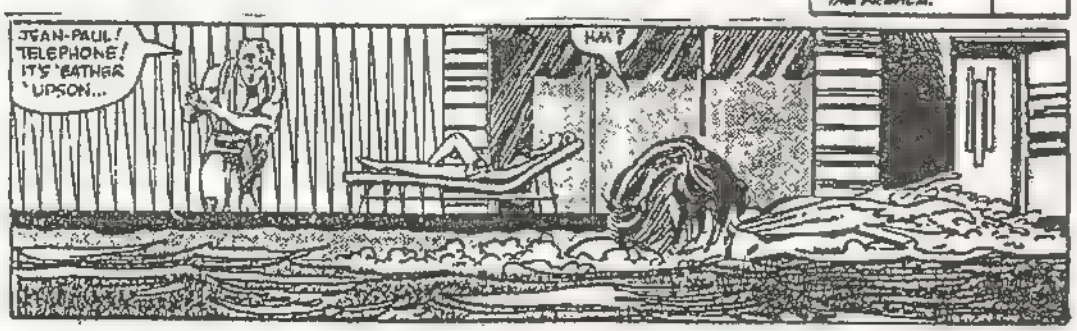

...ALTHOUGH THE WOMEN DON'T SEEM TO HAVE INTERESTED YOU OVERMUCH. I SUPPOSE LIKE A LOT OF JOCKS THE WINNING IS ALL THAT REALLY MATTERS. GETTING OUT THERE AND MAKING THE OTHER GUY EAT YOUR DUST--OR SNOW.
WELL, JEAN-PAUL, I INVITED YOU HERE TO OFFER YOU AN OPPOR--TUNITY TO DO SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE WORTHWHILE WITH THAT POWER OF YOURS.
YOU SEE I'M GATHERING HERE A SELECT TEAM OF VERY SPECIAL PEOPLE, THE KIND OF PEOPLE CANADA-- AND THE WORLD--NEEDS, TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT.

WATCH YOUR MOUTH, AND REMEMBER YOUR PLACE, OR THE NEXT TIME YOU LIGHT A MATCH...
...I'LL CREATE A DEMON THAT WILL BAR-BROIL INSTEAD OF SCARE, YOU.

HELLO. YES, THIS IS THE BENUBIER RESIDENCE. YES HE IS. MAY I ASK WHO IS CALLING?
AH YES. ONE MOMENT PLEASE.*
*TRANSLATED FROM THE ARABIC.

Scenes from ALPHA FLIGHT # 10 & 18. NORTHSTAR a possible gay by association ??
Scene from X-MEN # 141.- above - is PYRO merely effeminate ??

panels (c) MARVEL



EMPIRE BUILDING

Of the 3 galactic empires known to exist within the MARVEL UNIVERSE, the SHI'AR are of greatest interest to the X-MEN. Indeed, it is because of the X-MEN, in partic--ular CHARLES XAVIER, that the SHI'AR are even beginning to think of EARTH as something other than a world of primitives.

Within the space of a comparatively short time, the SHI'AR have established themselves as a power to be reckoned with by even their fellow galaxy-spanning civilizations, the KREE & the SKRULLS. Circumstances would even seem to suggest that it is the SHI-AR who are the power of the future; if indeed they do not hold that honour already.

Technology-wise, the SHI'AR are incredibly advanced, certainly outstripping both KREE & SKRULLS in terms of interstellar travel. Quite apart from their advanced warp-drive starships, they also possess the technology to create STARGATES which allow instant intergalactic travel. The KREE & SKRULLS must however rely on naturally existing space-warps for any great distance of travel, hence the EARTH's great strategic value due to its position close to a major warp-space access point.

Quite apart from this, the SHI'AR possess other tech--nological advantages. Noticably teleport ability - some--thing that only recently a group of SKRULLS attempted to obtain from an unwitting REED RICHARDS (in FF ANNUAL #15). An interesting point about this is that the KREE possessed teleport capability as far back as FF # 65 - their second appearance. The tactical value of such a device is trem--endous, so only some limitation in capacity or range could explain why it hasn't been used by now.

The enormous genetic pool of the SHI'AR EMPIRE has produced any number of super-beings. Enough in fact to form a small army, the IMPERIAL GUARD - made up of an elite corp to protect & carry out the orders of the MAJE--STROR or MAJESTRIX - & a much larger division, the BORDERERS - who assist in enforcing SHI'AR law on conquered worlds.

Neither the KREE or SKRULLS have bred super-beings naturally, though the KREE have attempted artificial creation with the KREE code-named SHATTERSTAR as well as evolutionary manipulation of the TERRAN INHUMANS. All 3 empires have created cyborgs though: the SUPER-SKRULL, RONAN THE ACCUSER & [illegible]ZA.

Infact, both KREE & SKRULLS have reached the end of their genetic potential. The SKRULLS threw theirs away hundreds of millions of years ago when the SKRULL DEVIANTS, WIPED OUT ALL SKRULLIAN 'NORMALS' - that part of the race granted the ability of beneficial mutation by the CELESTIALS - thus ending all chance of them evolving above their current position in the evolutionary ladder. Despite,

even because of, this the SKRULLS went on to form an empire.

The KREE, on the other hand, have only recently reached the end of the genetic cycle & now find their whole society prevented from progressing as a result. This is strange since inter-breeding is a large part of KREE civilization, caus ing a great deal of unrest amongst the population & enormous bigotry among blue--skinned KREE. I see no reason why this inter-breeding shouldn't contribute to the genetic development of the race. Pink skin can't be the only result surely ? Quite apart from this, their experinentation with the INHUMANS bears witness to their ability in genetic engineering & yet they can't seem to do anything about their own condition. Reportedly, the KREE are getting desperate about this situation & yet they ignore such possibil--ities as DOCTOR MINERVA's theories on the results of her mating with CAPTAIN MAR-VELL as a solution to the problem; while the SUPREMOR seems to have abandoned all ideas of using TERRAN genetic potential in the form of RICK JONES & CAROL DANVERS. I find it hard to believe he gave into threats from a mere handful of super-humans with his whole race at stake.

Despite their obvious advantages over their rivals, the SHI'AR have so far failed to press said advantage over either of the other races. Instead, they have avoided conflict with either, even bringing the 3 empires together over the threat DARK PHOENIX posed to the universe. No mean feat given the degree of hatred KREE & SKRULLS feel for each other - even with their very existance threatened..

Events have occured which alter this seeming balance of power radically in recent times however. The KREE/SKRULL WAR, having raged for several millennium is finally at an end following a month long battle raged in the blue area of the MOON by one soldier of each side - both the KREE & SKRULL realizing that co-operation between the 2 races was possible (FF ANNUAL # 17). Whether this peace will last is another matter. There is bound to be a massive rejection of the idea by both populations - the hatred between the races being so great. It is hard to believe either side would even stop to negotiate, let alone hold to such an agreement. The SUPREMOR has proved himself far too treacherous in the past for that & while it may well have been possible that having made such an agreement the SKRULL EMPRESS R'KUL would have kept to it, her death & the destruction of the SKRULL THRONEWORLD by GALACTUS would, it seems, place the whole peace in jeopardy. Militarism has become too large a part of SKRULL life - indeed it has become part of their genetic make-up - for any new leaders to just give up, especially considering the massive animosity that exists between the two races.

While the entire SKRULL political system is in turmoil it more than possible that the SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, if he chooses to go against the agreement, could take advantage of the situation; as could DEATHBIRD - who has usurped her sister,

LILANDRA NERAMANI, to become MAJESTRIX SHI'AR. Certainly DEATH--BIRD has a desire for power that even an empire maynot satisfy & she may well decide to forego internal affairs to seize what she can. Only time can say for how DEATHBIRD's rise to power may affect SHI'AR policies - both internal & towards the rest of the MARVEL UNIVERSE - though they will almost certainly take a far more aggressive line than that of her sister.

As MAJESTRIX, LILANDRA served the universe well in both her governing of the SHI'AR themselves & her role as intergalactic medi--ator & sometime 'saviour'. The latter seems to have become some--thing of an obsession with her - perhaps as a result of feeling a certain responsibility for her brother's use of the M'KRANN CRYSTAL - & is seemingly more important than regaining her empire, something she put off in favour of attending the trail of REED RICHARDS over his saving of GALACTUS' life. Under her rule, the SHI'AR could well have become a benevolent & irresistible force across the universe. With DEATH--BIRD on the throne however, the KREE/SKRULL WAR may have ended just in time to make way for an even larger, longer & infinitely more destructive conflict.

RICHARD HARRIS'84

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WANTED: Any Club member going abroad, especially to EUROPE, to let me know as I'm still collecting foreign reprints of the X-MEN & I can tell you what I'm after. Will pay cost of any you buy for me, of course. Write to: GEOFF LAMPREY, 74 GLOUCESTER ROAD, BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET TA6 6EA. Thanx.
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ITALIAN X-MEN

The X-MEN first appeared here in ITALY as a back-up in 'CAPITAN AMERICA' # 1 way back in 1973, 3 years after the X-MEN in AMERICA had been cancelled. Initially only half an X-MEN issue was reprinted (beginning with the MAGNETO story from X-MEN # 1) but this developed until whole X-MEN issues were reprinted (all in full colour on white paper at low price. Beat that, MARVEL U.K.!). Each issue contained a full CAPTAIN AMERICA story, a full X-MEN story & one of those old MARVEL thrillers (much akin to the TALES OF THE WATCHER they used to run in STAR WARS WEEKLY in the U.K.). Then with # 70, in DECEMBER 1975, by some wild coincidence the original X-MEN stories ended just as the new series began in AMERICA! Wisely though, the publishers - EDITORIALE CORNO - decided to bide their time & printed the BEAST solo adventures (from AMAZING ADVENTURES) first.

Even then, they still didn't reprint the X-MEN, but began the adventures of LUKE CAGE, POWER MAN. It wasn't until the summer of 1977 that the NEW X-MEN finally appeared (CAPITAN AMERICA # 114) beginning with X-MEN GIANT-SIZE # 1, leaving POWER MAN with only 6-7 pages. However, CAPITAN AMERICA was cancelled after they finished re-printing the last COCKRUM X-MEN issue.

The reprints then appeared in 'THOR e i VENDICATORI' which for those who can't read Italian meant that this title reprints THOR & the AVENGERS. With CAPTAIN AMERICA & X-MEN stories as well though, even its 50 page format was over-crowded.

Thus, after a few issues it was decided to put the X-MEN in a relatively new mag aimed at the sci-fi orientated market called 'GLI ETERNI' (THE ETERNALS). This mag was about the same size as EPIC & was supposed to have been a huge success aiming to hit the STAR WARS market. It might have succeeded had the editor not had cold feet at the last minute & filled the mag with mediocre super-hero fare such as TORPEDO, NOVA, etc.. Science Fiction was represented in the form of OMEGA THE UNKNOWN, GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY & JACK KIRBY's 2001 & ETERNALS series. There was no letters page so there is no way to gauge Italian fan reaction (although this tends to centre on who is stronger & who are the X-MEN ?). The X-MEN appeared just before the book was cancelled, completing reprinting with # 113.

Then there was a long silence. I wasn't in SICILY when it happened, but in 1980 but all the non-reprinted books were cancelled except one. The survivor was a hopeless mess. It was still in full colour on good paper but the contents weren't inspiring. The name of the mag was also rather ambiguously titled ' L'UOMO RAGNO e dei SUPER-EROI MARVEL (SPIDER-MAN & SOME MARVEL SUPER-HEROES). True enough it was rather appr--opriate since apart from the SPIDEY lead story the remaining contents varied every few weeks. Most of MARVEL's characters found their way into the new digest sized pages & although the X-MEN's name appeared on the cover, the X-MEN themselves never appeared inside.

After 2 short years however, the mag returned to its original size with fewer pages. This over-priced thin magazine contained one whole SPIDEY story & 2 cramped back-ups: The AVENGERS &..... THE X-MEN! Even if at one time they only had 4 pages!!

Soon, other 'new' mags began to pop up. New, so to speak, because due to the success of the reprint line, individually titled mags of CAPITAN AMERICA & THOR - reprinting from the 60s - came onto the market. This was quickly followed up by a third, the FANTASTIC FOUR. None of these titles featured back-up stories.

As you could imagine, I had given up on the ITALIAN reprints some time ago. What was the point in carrying on?? I look at the stands now & then but they seem to have disappeared - hopefully for good. The X-MEN's final incar--nation was very bad. CORNO couldn't decide whether to translate their names or not. One minute, WOLVERINE had his own name, the next he was 'GHIOTTONE', then back again. They also mistook WOLVERINE in civilian dress for the BEAST, giving him a dark blue face. Even VINDICATOR's cost--ume became blue & yellow!

CORNO's mistake was in resorting to reprinting the early stories which sold so well & aimed them at the 10 year old kids, neglecting the teen-age market which would have widened their sales. Compared to the 'MARVEL REVOLUTION' in the UK some years back, all I can say was that you were pretty lucky & had avoided this rather crass commercialisation.

ANTONIO DE SARNO'84

Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking ?

To begin this hypothetical article I would like to pose a question directed at all you lateral thinkers out there.

WILLIAM is a boy, age 13, walking down a busy main street on his way to school one morning. Suddenly he lets out a gut-wrenching scream, seizes his head in his hands & promptly turns insane. Any suggestions as to what has happened ?? Those of you who have read X-MEN # 151 may have an answer. In case you have deduced wrongly, or not at all, as to what has occurred, here is my awe-inspiring explaination:

WILLIAM has recently been suffering from a series of excrutiating headaches that are symptoms of his adolescence &, you guessed it, as he walks down the frenzied metropolis his gift of telepathy comes to the fore. Having no belief or knowledge of this phenomena, he finds it impossible to control this influx of millions of random 'thoughts' (note the inverted commas for future reference) that his mutant brain receives. Ultimately resulting in a massive cerebral overload which, theoretically speaking, drives WILLIAM beyond the brink of madness.

Now that I have your undivided attention, I shall put forward my arguement that telepathy as it is usually depicted is absolutely impractical & its format, especially in the comics medium, is impossible!

For example, take the unfortunate case of WILLIAM. Can you imagine the sudden sensation of not being able to recognise your own thoughts or the acquisition of adult sensibilities/responsibilities - even perversions! How would/could you handle it ? One second you are worrying about the maths homework you should have done, when without warning: 'Sorry I'm late/What seems to be the problem/the baby just kicked/Now she's the sort of thing I could go for...' all flow through your innocent unsuspecting mind at the speed of thought, along with millions of others all within the space of a 100th of a second. I think I have made my point (no chauvinism intended) but before we go on, let me put your argue--ments with my reasoning to one side, solutions & explainations to/for my possibly imagined drawbacks will be dealt with in a few paragraphs time.

Another obstacle barring the credibility of ill-defined telepathy is that when XAVIER taps in on people's thoughts, he receives a nicely worded & punctuated statement. Now if you were to write down all the things you thought in one minute, I guarantee there would be many more unfinished sentences than coherent ones & the most of your imagination's notions would be made up of colours &/or images rather than the Queen's maltreated English.

Now, for reasons outlined later (in my solution to telepathic inconsistencies in further paragraphs) it may be possible for a mind-reader to either perceive people's thought images/colours & translate them into worded sentences or automatically receive these same messages as words (that is all very well, unless we are talking about a telepath who picks up all thoughts in their original format - of which, I can think of no examples within mainstream comics & outside empathy). Anyway, if we allow for this conceivable barrier to be somehow overcome, there is another factor that should be taken into consideration: Are our patterns of thought the same as other people's ?? We may all reach similar conclusions to a maths equation but exactly how we go about it; how we perceive the difficulty of the sum & how fast/accurately we actually carry out our working may differ greatly between individuals. In my roundabout way, I'm trying to say, 'Is one person's way of thinking totally alien to another's ??' Just because you know that red looks like red does not mean that red looks the same to everybody else. The same could easily apply to thoughts.

Well, I have briskly gone over the main problems as I see it, that prohibit the credibility of ESP as it is depicted in the X-MEN, LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES, et al (let us not even mention DREADSTAR). All these problems however have been physical (so to speak). There is another hinderance on a more social level that possesses a greater degree of importance in these xenophobic times of anti-mutant tendencies. Would your average conscien--tious telepath feel that he/she has the right to tamper with or 'listen in on' your mind ?? Would they not feel some sense of guilt or remorse, even horror/surprise at some of the deprived thoughts the mutant may uncover ?? I suppose it would be possible to surmount the latter discomfort with experience, but the first may affect the

live of the psychic who hates him/herself for what he/she is.

All very hypothetical you are saying, but to show I do believe in creative licence, I shall present my explainations for the apparent ease XAVIER has in discovering the inner most secrets of AMARA, RAHNE, KITTY, SAM, etc etc.

Regarding WILLIAM's inability to suddenly cope with an inexor--able tidal wave of brain messages. Upon becoming a telepath, he would probably have to undergo extensive concentration to ultilize his ability (even to a minor degree). You might say that he were unaware of his latent power(s), then as soon as it matures he could encounter the overload so inarticulately described at the beginning of this preamble, but this should simply not occur. Before WILLIAM could become anywhere near that powerful, he would first first have to negotiate strange personal thoughts which he would eventually recognise as the thinking of people in the same room as himself. So that by the time he was able to receive messages on a town-wide scale, he might have impressive mastery over which thoughts he wanted to discover (if any) & incredible ability at identifying his own private ideas & sentiments. Now I am not reducing my early declaration of telepathy's unlikelihood (as it is commonly represented) to a mockery by saying that my example (WILLIAM) is totally erroneous. I am merely saying that you would slowly begin to wield limited control over your mental capacity so as to avoid so unfortunate fate as that of my imagin--ary mutant. The medium I have quarrel with in this piece shows no explaination for the clean-cut examples of telepathy they depict.

Next obstacle to feasibility is that of the format of other people's cerebral dialect. This does not bar the probability of telepathy in reality. It just creates an interesting arguement with the way it is depicted within comics, specifically the X-MEN. This can be easily passed off as creative licence (eg it makes it much easier for the writer to convey his character's thoughts as he would their speech. This coupled with the fact that he cannot 'write' images seems to automatically result in his obligatory translation), but perhaps one budding author may attempt to alter the trend with an account similar to JOHN WYNDHAM's 'THE CHRYSALIDS'. The possible manifestations of telepathy in reality will be encapsulated to some extent in my conclusion.

The supplementary debate to the above arguement is that which deals with the differences that could exist between individual

...continued on page: 50

MOST STRIPZINES ROT YOUR BRAIN, BUT SHOKWAVE

BLOWS YOUR MIND!

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SHOKWAVE

NUMBER TWO — THE ULTIMATE STRIPZINE

ROGUISH BEHAVIOUR

She is 18 years old. She stands 5' 8" tall & weighs 180 lbs. She can fly half-way around the world in a single, outmaneuvre a jet fighter, toss 50 ton weights around like soap cartons & shrug off high calibre gunfire like confetti, yet she can never know a lover's touch. She is ROGUE & in all the world there is no one quite like her.

To understand the demons that drive her, we must first consider MYSTIQUE - leader of the so-called BROTHERHOOD OF MUTANTS - & the almost insane hatred that MYSTIQUE feels for CAROL DANVERS aka MS. MARVEL aka BINARY.

MYSTIQUE first appears as the mysterious employer of a renegade CIA agent called BALLARD in MS. MARVEL # 9. At that time she is referred to as ALPHA & sees MS. MARVEL as 'a danger' to 'the COUNCIL'. Later, in her guise as RAVEN DARKHOLME, she sees MS. MARVEL in action & ponders that while 'she can't be aware of me yet, though each day she becomes more dangerous'. Finally MYSTIQUE supplies BALLARD with the advanced weaponary that transforms him into CENTURION & charges him with the destruction of MS. MARVEL - needless to say, he fails in this task.

Due to the subsequent cancellation of her own title & the events that followed during her all too brief stint in the AVENGERS the explaination of just why MYSTIQUE hates MS. MARVEL so much has never seen print, although there is evidence (X-MEN # 158) that the story was intended to appear in MARVEL FANFARE. Also there is evidence (X-MEN # 182 page 21 panel 1) that this untold story would involve ROGUE herself in an adventure preceding her debut in AVENGERS ANNUAL # 10.

Drawing on vague hints & references in various issues of the X-MEN, it is possible to come up with the following conjectures: A baby girl, born in the deep South, her father deserting her mother before the child was even born, the mother unable or unwilling to raise her, a foster mother found in MYSTIQUE long before any powers had appeared to show that she might be of use as a member of the BROTHERHOOD (unless DESTINY had predicted her power long in advance), MYSTIQUE allowing the relationship to develop as she protected the young ROGUE from 'badness & night--mares'. ROGUE was raised in CALDECOTT COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, presumably whilst MYSTIQUE was formulating the plans & forging the alliances which led to her position as RAVEN DARKHOLME in the PENTAGON.

Then, along with the onset of puberty, ROGUE's power began to appear. During a bout of adolescent petting & horse-play with a local boy, ROGUE inadvertently absorbed his memories & abilities. The trauma, particularly in such circumstances, must have been considerable. MYSTIQUE, now aware of ROGUE's abilities provided the initial guidance & training that ROGUE needed. It is interes--ting to wonder whether or not ROGUE was aware of MYSTIQUE's nature & goals before her powers appeared - if not the shock would be extremely traumatic.

Moving from conjecture to recorded facts, ROGUE's initial appearance was in AVENGERS ANNUAL # 10, where she was a most will--ing partner to MYSTIQUE's plans to secure the release of the imprisoned BROTHERHOOD. Also, although shown only in partial flash--backs, ROGUE was responsible for the attack on CAROL DANVERS which resulted in the permanent transfer of MS. MARVEL's powers (with the exception of her prescient so-called 'seventh sense') to ROGUE & the total absorption & erasure of CAROL's personna. It has been stressed that the depth & totality of this transfer were accidental, a result of ROGUE's inexperience & lack of control.

An attempt was made to dispose of the now mindless body of CAROL DANVERS by tossing it off the GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE, but this was probably done by people in the employ of MYSTIQUE than by ROGUE herself - it is debatable as to how much of that night's work was true accident & how much was a result of the schemes laid by MYSTIQUE.

(Small step sideways time : In AVENGERS ANNUAL # 10 page 3 panel 1, a 5 or 6 year old girl speaking to a policeman says, 'I'm MADDY PRYOR, I been sick but I'm better now'....Ahhh, CHRIS,.... Does SCOTT know about this ??)

ROGUE's behaviour, during the AVENGERS battle & in subsequent appearances in X-MEN # 158 & DAZZLER # 22 & # 28 is that of a savage fighter & no-holds barred villainess. Indeed, when told to absorb memories of the X-MEN's secrets from a captive ANGEL, it is only her personal squeamishness about possible physical changes from WARREN that prevent her, 'I'll kill him if you like, break him in two...'. Also in these appearances, ROGUE's favourite method method of absorbing memories is to kiss her victims - an action which serves to highlight the recurring hints of sexuality inherent in ROGUE's powers, as also shown in X-MEN # 185.

During all of this time, ROGUE's powers had been increasing & were now completely beyond her control. Finally accepting that MYSTIQUE could not help her, she turned to CHARLES XAVIER for assistance in X-MEN # 171.

Her physical problem, plus the concommitant mental stresses produced by the ongoing conflict between her own mindset & that of CAROL DANVERS/MS. MARVEL had reduced her to the state of being virtually an emotional basket-case.

XAVIER took her in & was presumably able to provide ROGUE with some form of therapy which gave her a firmer grip on reality, as witness her greater degree of composure in later issues. In # 173, despite a brief reversion to her earlier mode of behaviour with LOGAN, she actually saves him - or, more accurately, saves MARIKO, from VIPER at considerable risk to her own life. She is in turn saved only by the fact that LOGAN then repays the favour by forcing her to accept the use of his healing factor.

In # 175 she reveals MASTERMIND's plots once CYCLOPS has forced her to absorb XAVIER's powers. In # 178 she defies MYSTIQUE & demands the right to shape her own life. In # 179 she saves PETER's life, again risking her own to do so & winning ORORO's acceptance - albeit unspoken. # 182-185 reveals even more insights into ROGUE's character & serve to reveal how deeply CAROL's subconscious reactions are able to affect ROGUE is she allows her constant guard to drop, particularly where ROSSI is concerned - his rejection must be painful to both parts of her make-up, & leads in suitably to her angry & potentially self-destructive misuse of the DANGER ROOM, as well as her feelings of self-loathing when comparing her powers to SELENE's. It also serves to explain her confusion & bitterness when she talks to ORORO by the side of the MISSISSIPPI, but it is perhaps partly due to her being able to speak to someone like that, as well as the tangible - in a very literal sense - proof of her trust that STORM offers by sharing her powers & memories with ROGUE that allow her to begin to come to terms with herself....

Perhaps that is the keynote to ROGUE's behaviour - that she is faced with a situation in which she has to come to a viable acceptance of just who & what she is; & just who & what she is in the process of becoming. Moving from the young girl with a disturbed & unsettled childhood, who desperately sought approval from the mother image presented by MYSTIQUE, as well as having to deal with the very different concepts & reactions that she has received from both MS. MARVEL & CAROL DANVERS. It is worth recalling that CAROL herself had great mental & emotional difficulties in reconciling the problems caused by the KREE personality fused with her own by the PSYCE-MAGNETRON & that it was only in MS. MARVEL # 12 that she was able to accept that she was

not all CAROL or all MS. MARVEL, but was a person comprising a total synthesis of the best — & worst — of both. A similar acceptance on ROGUE's part would seem to be her only real chance to obtain a realistic & viable mental balance. Certainly I would say that ROGUE's new-found willingness to act self-sacrific--ingly for a higher ideal, & the stubb--ornness to face down MYSTIQUE are rooted more in CAROL DANVERS than in the ROGUE of AVENGERS ANNUAL # 10.

Almost certainly that is what XAVIER is hoping to achieve, & the speed with ROGUE was transformed from emotional cripple to functionality upon joining the X-MEN would seem to indicate that he is well qualified to help her attain this goal. Perhaps even better qualified than he has allowed to become apparent - bear in mind that XAVIER must want to convert ROGUE from the 'evil' represented by the BROTHERHOOD to the 'good' represented by the X-MEN, & that his only hold over her is that she heeds him to help with her inability to control her powers...Giving her that control might not therefore be in his best interests.

Certainly XAVIER has had experience with similar abilities - anyone else remember a guy called CAL RANKIN ?? (I wonder what ROGUE would look like if she absorbed the powers of all the current X-MEN ??), as well as the research that I'm certain XAVIER must have carried out to determine the causes of CYCLOPS' inability to control his eyebeams.

There is also a possibility that some of ROGUE's problem could be due to the manipulations of MASTERMIND, during the time he was 'settling scores' with MYSTIQUE - & XAVIER easily rectified all of the other damage after WYNGARDE's defeat.

Whatever XAVIER's motives, ROGUE is continuing the learn, & to grow, & to live with the consequences of her actions ...All of which are interesting things to observe - & to undergo.

Good luck, ROGUE chil'. You're gonna need it.

P.S. As an aside, I chose not to throw into my analysis of ROGUE's chara--cter: There is evidence in X-MEN ANNUAL # 7 - assuming that you're willing to accept that as a 'real' X-MEN story - that ROGUE had met, &/or fought with SEBASTICAN SHAW on a previous occasion. That, plus reference to 'THE COUNCIL' in MS. MARVEL # 9 & MASTERMIND's reference to 'former business associates' in X-MEN # 175 would seem to indicate strong possibilities of some tie-in between MYSTIQUE, ROGUE, the BROTHERHOOD & the HELLFIRE CLUB's INNER CIRCLE. Certainly not a combination that I would want to trifle with.

PETER J. POOLE'84

PONDERS TO THOUGHT

People want team-ups without SPIDER-MAN in, do they ??
Well, there's a second team-up book that's been going for 60-odd issues.
Its called: ROM SPACEKNIGHT!!!

JAMIE WOODCOCK'84

Fanzines Fans Favourites 1984

1. FAVOURITE COMIC BOOK

1	AMERICAN FLAGG	91
2	WARRIOR	56
3	X-MEN	53
4	TEEN TITANS	

2. FAVOURITE MARVEL COMIC

1	X-MEN	63
2	FANTASTIC FOUR	29
3	DR. STRANGE	21
4	THOR	19

3. FAVOURITE DC COMIC

1	TEEN TITANS	53
2	CAMELOT 3000	46
3	LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES	35
4	RONIN	30

4. FAVOURITE INDEPENDENT

1	AMERICAN FLAGG	76
2	JON SABLE	35
3	WARRIOR	21
4	NEXUS	18

5. FAVOURITE MAGAZINE

1	WARRIOR	101
2	ELFQUEST	20
2	EPIC	20
4	DAREDEVILS	18

6. FAVOURITE TEAM

1	X-MEN	52
2	TEEN TITANS	44
3	SPECIAL EXECUTIVE	32
3	LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES	32

7. FAVOURITE CHARACTER

1	RUBEN FLAGG	36
1	V	36
3	MARVELMAN	27
4	WOLVERINE	19

8. FAV. SUPPORTING CHARACTER

1	RAUL	25
2	EVEY	20
3	WOLVERINE	13
4	ZUKKO	9

9. FAVOURITE VILLAIN

1	THE FURY	25
2	HOBGOBLIN	20
3	DOCTOR DOOM	19
4	MAGNETO	

10. DESERVES OWN BOOK

1	CAPTAIN BRITAIN	32
2	WOLVERINE	15
3	V	12
4	ROCKETEER	11

11. FAV.SINGLE COMIC STORY

1	DAREDEVIL # 190	15
1	DAREDEVIL # 191	15
3	TEEN TITANS # 38	12
4	X-MEN # 175	11

12. FAV.CONTINUED STORY

1	RONIN # 1 - 3	19
2	AMERICAN FLAGG #1-3	18
3	CLOAK & DAGGER # 1-4	11
4	DAREDEVILS # 5-11	9

13. FAV. INDEPENENT STORY

1	AMERICAN FLAGG # 1-3	21
2	JON SABLE # 3 - 6	15
3	AMERICAN FLAGG # 1	12
4	LOVE & ROCKETS # 2	8

14. FAVOURITE COVER

1	AMERICAN FLAGG # 1	15
2	THOR # 337	12
3	CAMELOT 3000 # 6	9
4	WARRIOR # 10	8

15. FAVOURITE NEW COMIC

1	AMERICAN FLAGG	118
2	RONIN	60
3	JON SABLE	43
4	ALPHA FLIGHT	31

16. FAVOURITE ARTIST

1	HOWARD CHAYKIN	34
2	ALAN DAVIES	31
3	FRANK MILLER	29
4	BRIAN BOLLAND	26

17. FAVOURITE WRITER

1	ALAN MOORE	86
2	FRANK MILLER	28
3	HOWARD CHAYKIN	27
4	CHRIS CLAREMONT	21

18. FAVOURITE INKER

1	TERRY AUSTIN	71
2	KLAUS JANSEN	22
3	DICK GIORDANO	12
3	LARRY MAHLSTADT	12

19. CREATION AWARD

1	ALAN MOORE	34
2	STAN LEE	21
3	STEVE DITKO	15
4	DEZ SKINN	14

20. FAVOURITE FANZINE

1	FANTASY ADVERTISER	79
2	THE OWL'S EFFORT	45
3	CEREBRO	33
4	WORLDS COLLIDE	27

All figures on the left hand side of each column are the votes taken from 50 people in the various categories.
There may have been some possible confusion between UK & USA versions of DAREDEVIL(s). MILLER's DD was very big in 1982 & this time did poorly. Categories 11 - 14 may be dropped as there were far too many nominations.
In the FAVOURITE FANZINE there were another 18 fanzines which received votes (although 13 had 3 or less votes).

DICK DOMAR'84

ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING
...continued from page: 47

patterns of thought. Now, the weath--ered mind-reader may be able to perceive "@&%@&" as 'Damn! I left the taps running!' but the novice may wonder what the hell is going on off inside his/her head. Of course, this particular issue is extremely theoretical & a personal concept at that to the best of my knowledge & bears little or no importance to the realism within the realms of 4-colour. So the very likelihood of this happening is so slight that I shall leave the solution open to anybody willing to offer one. (You might wonder what is so great about my so-called theory & insomuch as that you would be right. But there is a lot of room for expansion as I see it & since this article is lacking in cohesion already, I shall refrain from superfluous comment).

Perhaps I am over-dramatizing the whole ESP bit. Maybe your average psychic picks up several thousand transmissions, deals with them all at the breath-taking speed of thought, disposes of the trivia & decides that nobody is paying any large amount of attention to him/her. Can you imagine walking into a packed room & mentally scanning to discover exactly what everyone really thinks about you ?? Could be interesting & infor--mative under certain circumstances.

Maybe telepathy does occur like we see it in the lushly illustrated pages of our favourite mutants. Perhaps all the translations, conce--ntration & receiving of thousands of thoughts take place in the blink of an eye but are glossed over by economic writers in their feverish attempt to remain entertaining.

To bring this admittedly rambling article to a hopefully meaningful climax, I have one remaining statement:-

Is empathy a more realistic & probable concept in our world than telepathy ?? Many people are empathic - all to varying magnitudes. Some on a more enhanced scale than they would care to admit or assume. An empath may realize that a friend is grieving, discerning at the same time exactly what ails them, while another companion may only perceive the former. It is possible that an empath could use his/her talent to grasp the inner feelings of an individual, thus being able to know exactly which events affect them on a conscious level or perhaps the more adept/aware empath could unravel the mysteries of a person's karma - if they felt no moral prohibitions. This could be interpreted as telepathy from afar, but it is not strictly so.

While XAVIER infringes the basic human rights of his pupils, RAVEN merely eases the pain of her patients in a heroic fashion. Perhaps this is the age of the empath. When 'BIG BROTHER' crashes down on the 'mutant filth', he will avoid disposing of the empaths for fear of the instant creation of countless martyrs. Or will his mind be tampered with by the immoral telepaths.

CHRIS BUTLER'84

POWER LORDS & TERRORISTS

Imagine, if you will, that you live in the MARVEL UNIVERSE & you suddenly find yourself to be a super-powered mutant. You might be a telepath like PROFESSOR X; able to trans--form yourself into organic steel like COLOSSUS; or cursed with unbelievably destructive forces like HAVOK or CYCLOPS. The conceivable variations in powers you might find yourself stuck with are almost without end; but the first 2 questions you'll probably ask yourself after the initial excitement/ surprise/fear are likely to be pretty constant. The first will probably be along the lines of: 'What can I DO with these powers ??'. Followed closely by a second, more import--ant question (as you realize that you live in a world of mutant witch-hunts, detection devices & SENTINELS): 'How do I survive ??!'

Over the coming months & years, the answer to these 2 questions will probably be found in 6 basic choices of action :

1. Virtually ignore your abilities except for the odd ocassion it comes in handy in everyday life eg getting a job (Phew! Some power!), passing exams or putting up the shelves. All the while hoping no-one will suspect.

This would, in the real world, probably turn out to be quite a popular choice for numerous reasons I won't go into here. How--ever, in the MARVEL UNIVERSE, fear of detection must deter many from this alternative. Certainly, there are likely to be numerous individuals around doing just this (even unwittingly, like KITTY's friend DOUG RAMSEY until quite recently) but this choice is becoming increa--singly unworkable.

2. You might try a public relations slant like the X-MEN : Showing the world that mutants are not all that bad, & even downright useful to have around in a tight situation eg for saving the world.

However, its a danger--ous job. Many folk dist--rust you & the Govern--ment is often breathing down your neck. Being a good guy isn't all its cooked up to be.

3. At the other end of the spectrum you might decide to become a super-crook instead - using your powers to rob, defraud & assinate for financial gain (a better living in this respect than being a super-hero). The basic reasoning behind taking this choice being: 'They'd screw ME given half the chance, so I'll screw THEM first.' It might seem a rather selfish way of life to us, but what do they owe a world that would gladly see them locked up either way ??

However, judging by the singular lack of success this group seems to have in this area due to the hordes of super-heroes ranged against them, this isn't as cushy a prospect as one might first imagine.

4. Setting your sights a little higher & prov--iding you have a suitable power, you might try your hand at world domination - an alternative covered in detail last CEREBRO by my 'CASE FOR MAGNETO' article. One of its conclusions was that such an alternative is virtually impossible to carry out successfully in the long term.

The final 2 choices of action bring us neatly to the main subjects of this article (you thought I'd never get there, didn't you ?!), By this stage, having seen the potential problems associated with the preceeding 4 choices, you're probably already beginning to gain some insight into MYSTIQUE & SEBASTIAN SHAW's point of view.

5. TERRORISM : The use of extreme measures of intimidation to create a condition of fear in one's victims. This is MYSTIQUE's choice.

With this alternative you won't just wake up one morning & say, 'Hmm, I think I'll become a terrorist today.' Instead it will probably be

a gradual process of growing cynicism & hatred, boosted & finally pushed over the top (into violence) by certain key episodes in which the reasons for your hate are underlined eg the imprisonment or murder of loved ones.

In MYSTIQUE's case, her activities were most likely inspired by the prejudice & violence reactions she would have got over her appearance in her younger years, like NIGHTCRAWLER, before she learnt how to change her form. Unlike NIGHTCRAWLER (whose deep religious beliefs & general nice nature would have helped him to forgive), MYSTIQUE's mentality (she is well known for her grudges eg against MS. MARVEL as illustrated in AVENGERS ANNUAL #10 & against PROF. X in X-MEN # 177-178) would have led her to hate normal humans because of this period.

As with MAGNETO, MYSTIQUE believes that ordinary humans & mutants can never live together in harmony. That Homo sapiens will always try to use, abuse, persecute & enslave her race (& who can blame her, considering the pressures the average mutant-about-town has to face from society in general even if their appearance IS acceptable) but beyond this she also believes that by blatantly removing any official threat to their existance (like the attempted assassination of SENATOR ROBERT KELLY in X-MEN # 141-142) & then simply walking away, despite all the security arrangements (which MYSTIQUE & Co. WOULD have done but for the intervention of the X-MEN) would create an atmosphere of respectful fear of mutantkind.

However, as we saw in X-MEN # 141, terrorism usually has the opposite effect - only serving to strengthen the resolve of those it attacks. In MYSTIQUE's case, a successful assassination attempt on KELLY (in one time stream) eventually resulted in a backlash which led to the death or capture of virtually every mutant in the UNITED STATES!

Now, MISTIQUE is nothing if not very clever. Her lofty position at the PENTAGON & her remarkable skills in battle are testimony to this fact alone. So why does she pursue what seems to be an illogical line of action ? Well, basically if you KEEP inflicting damage on your target AND manage to get away with it, you CAN eventually force those in power to consider your grievances. For economic reasons alone (witness the effect the IRA are having on the BRITISH GOVERNMENT) even if they don't openly admit it.

You & I may not sympathise with MYSTIQUE & her methods, but its easy to see how the 'right' circumstances & a certain mentality might lead someone along this route.

6. Your last gambit as a mutant might to try to rise to such a position of power that you are either forewarned of any official anti-mutant movements & legislation or you can simply stop them.

This is the choice followed by both SEBASTIAN SHAW (as a member of the very influential HELLFIRE CLUB) & RAVEN DARKHOLME/MYSTIQUE (as DEPUTY DIRECTOR of DEFENCE & ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS at the PENTAGON). Though admittedly the potential 'survival' aspect of their respective rises to power maynot have been uppermost in their minds (ambition probably being the greater incentive).

To be truthful, this option isn't quite the same as the other 5 in the sense that whilst you CAN simply decide to take any of the previous choices at a moment's notice, you obviously CANNOT similarly decide to become extremely influential without sound reasons for believing you can do so. For example, SHAW owes his rise to the leadership of the INNER CIRCLE to shrewd business sense, ruthlessness & a fair bit of luck, rather than just a simple desire to do well.

Talking of SHAW, lets take a look at his actions & motivations: MR. SHAW inspires very mixed feelings in me. A combination of grudging admiration for his considerable non-mutant abilities & incredible self-confidence & disgust for his complete lack of any sense of kinsmanship towards his fellow mutants. I mean, what kind of person actively endeavours to capture members of his own kind with the intention of using them as 'guinea pigs' for genetic experiments as SHAW announced he was doing in X-MEN # 133 ?! His reason ? To find out how mutants arise so that super-powered beings may be 'custom-built' by genetic engineering. Such a discovery, by its very nature, would bring SHAW (& the HELLFIRE CLUB) vast financial & political rewards.

SEBASTIAN SHAW is also responsible for the U.S. Government re-building the SENTINELS using one of his factories (he no doubt plans to get more out of it than just a few extra million dollars) - another scheme which will cause great misery to other mutants whilst SHAW reaps the benefits.

Of all the mutants who exist on the wrong side of the law, only SHAW can be said to have not the slightest hint of a reasonable explaination for his activities other than for money & power. By his total disregard for his fellow human beings in the pursuit of his own selfish ambitions, SHAW sums up all that is worst in our species today & as such I am unable to sympathise with his actions actions in any way. I hope he comes to a sticky end one day....preferably at the hands of one of his own SENTINELS.

If the above defined categories seem to closely parallel the ways in which normal humans choose to exist/survive (did you pot the 'man-next-door', the crook & the ruthless businessman types for example ??) you shouldn't be surprised because they ARE human (they just happen to have a few extra tricks up their proverbial sleeves) & so subject to the same quirks & weaknesses of personality as we are. Hence, by condemning MYSTIQUE (for striking back) & SEBASTIAN SHAW (for being selfish) we may also be condemning ourselves.....

STEVE WHATLEY'84

Who Protects Us From Them ?

Good morning, ladies & gentlemen. Welcome to the Mutant Bashers Sideshow. On the one hand, we have PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER - founder & mentor of the X-MEN & the NEW MUTANTS (but then, you knew that already, didn't you ??) & on the other we have SENATOR ROBERT KELLY or the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT - a gentleman sworn to protect 209,000,000 Americans. CHARLES XAVIER is backed by 13 super-powered individuals & his own personal fortune. SENATOR KELLY is backed by various Star Wars-type weapons & is funded by the American tax-payer. CHARLES XAVIER is motivated by his idealism & ROBERT KELLY is motivated by his bigotry. XAVIER appeals to our intellect & KELLY to our fears. The scene is set, ladies & gentlemen. Let battle commence.

Ok, & just to make it interesting, lets have a wager on the side. Say, the lives of all the mutants in the UNITED STATES ?? Good. Let us venture forth...

First round to the X-MEN. They saved SENATOR KELLY's life (admittedly from the BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS) thereby preventing the open-ended programming of the SENTINELS. KATE RASPUTIN's mindswap with her younger self was a success.

Second round to the X-MEN. Like true politicians, they out-argued the REVEREND STRYKER on national television. Bully for them.

Round three, however, goes to the SENATOR. The MUTANT AFFAIRS CONTROL ACT may only have a 1-in-10 chance of becoming law, but it will kindle the national interest. Congratulations, SENATOR, you've stirred up some of man's baser emotions & with the bill you've promised to gratify them. You know, like ADOLF HITLER did.

So where does this leave us, ladies & gentlemen ? Well, those of you who are baseline human have nothing to fear. Especially if you are the proud possessor of blond hair & blue eyes. Your author is therefore one of the lucky ones. And we all know that mutants are less than we are anyway. Don't we ?? Of course we know that. Comrade KELLY tells us so.

But where does that leave the X-MEN ? If the BILL OF RIGHTS fails to protect them, what alternative is there but violence ?? And won't another nation - one without a KELLY or a STRYKER - jump to their aid ?? Like BRITAIN did in POLAND in SEPTEMBER 1939 ? Can't you hear the napalm just falling through the trees ??

And won't the X-MEN - at least those not American-born - try to return to their places of birth ?? Can't you just see the old slave-trade escape routes re-opened ?? Ladies & gentlemen, I promise you bloodshed on a grand scale. I guarantee violence not seen since 1945. I promise you hate! I promise you betrayal! I promise you GENOCIDE!

Book now! It won't be long in coming! Or.....

Donate £5 & keep the slave routes open. Lobby against the Bill. Become a conscientious objector. Be imprisoned. Hold convictions in both senses of the word. Traitors.

We all know SENATOR KELLY is right. Don't we ?? DON'T WE ??

The X-MEN are the scapegoats of the Rocket Age. They are the Negroes of the 20th century. The Jews of the 1980s. And they shall endure.

Pray God!

TONY KEHOE'84

THE HISTORY OF ABSURD MUTANTS

The staff of the HOTEL ATLANTIS were serving their first customers' evening meal. Unfortunately, nobody wanted porridge so they had to take it away again. MAGNETO was pleased to have arrived before the main contingent of DYSLEXICS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF KNOWLEDGE delegates, giving him the chance to finalise his nefarious plans. MAGNETO & his cohorts were occupying the best window table in the NEPTUNE ROOM, which afforded a splendid view of the harbour, cosily ensconced amidst a fine oceanic sunset. Awaiting his haggis pâte starter, MAGNETO idly glanced at a small cruiser as it circumnavigated the island. By the time the last dregg of coffee had been consumed, he was one of the first people to notice the exhausted arrival of a bald man who had swam ashore & been given the kiss of life by the hotel crab-catcher who had until then been plying his trade.

In due course this unexpected escapee had been removed of seaweed & unwanted barnacles, dried off & restored to a modicum of health. When a laundry basket had been converted into a makeshift wheelchair & CHARLIE had been conveyed to the Residents' Lounge, MAGNETO & his 'guests' were privy to the bizarre explaination proffered by CHARLIE in response to the proprietor's probing questions. 'Bonnie Prince' CLAYMORE deliberated carefully before giving his verdict:

'Ah well - that's as may be. You're either a pyir put-upon craitur or a looney that likes swimming, but ah'm no heir tae mak judgements. The point is ye've nae munny & ye canna stay heir without munny. Ye can sleep on some soiled sheets fae the staff quarters & ah'll pit ye's on a supply boat in the mearnin'. That's after ye dae the washin'-up', he added.

'I'm sure that won't be necessary.' A languid drawl cut through the quiet lounge like a blunt knife. WARREN WORTHNOTHINGATALL pressed home his advantage of surprise: 'Probably my uncle, in shock after his traumatic experience, forgot to mention the family fortune; of which I'm carrying an ample part', he added, flashing a bulging wallet in CLAYMORE's direction. An electric silence pervaded the room, during which no-one noticed that the TURD was attrac--ting even more flies than usual. CLAYMORE found his voice: 'Ah'm awfy sorry, surr. It pays tae be canny tho', wi' so many queer fowk aboot.' Noticing four other young persons at the doorway he added: 'Ah'll pit ye'z in the POLARIS SUITE - ah'm sure ye'll be verry comfortable there.'

Half-an-hour later, the formalities of registration having beencompleted, two separate councils of war were being held. Both CHARLIE & MAGNETO decided that hostilities should commence during the night when the opposing faction was fast asleep. Thus it was that the X-MEN effected a multi-pronged entry to an empty NAUTILUS SUITE at the exact time that MAGNETO & his followers breached the privacy of an equally-empty POLARIS SUITE two floors below.

It didn't take long before each party had fathomed the intent of the other. Further frantic nocturnal prowling ensued & eventually a series of small skirmishes broke out as combatant came upon combatant in the various candlelit corridors. Unfort--unately the noise roused 'Bonnie Prince' CLAYMORE, even from the remoteness of his room near the kitchens, where he normally slept with his ear open for light-fingered staff. Taking a blade that was his namesake from its regular place on the wall, he set out to deal with the disturbance.

Considering the noise that was being made, none of it was due to casualties being sustained. For all the X-MEN's battle train--ing & for all their opposition's bravado, neither side were used to fighting anything more dangerous than a mosquito, & most of their aggression was spent on partial demolition of the hotel. Consequently CLAYMORE was horrified to see the extent of the damage to his beloved property. Turning a corner he found SILVERPRICK & ICYMAN shouting at each other whilst taking turns to lop a few more inches off a bargain-basement rubber plant which stood in the corner. Uttering a blood-curling howl akin to a punctured set of bagpipes he launched himself at them, brandishing his sword. They never knew what hit them & were forced merely to parry his thrusts with silver cane & ice pole respectively. It wasn't long before they found themselves fleeing for their lives down a fire escape & into the half-heartedly cultivated flora which constituted the Hotel Garden.

CLAYMORE locked the door & hastened upstairs again to flush out the rest of the troublemakers. Similar scenarios were enacted, until only CHARLIE & MAGNETO remained unaccounted for. Eventually he found them at the top of the stairwell on the fourth floor, making ineffectual threats & trying hard not to keep them. They were charged at by the choleric Caledonian & forced to descend at a speed which created a trade-off between safety from laceration by CLAYMORE's claymore & danger from falling downstairs. MAGNETO didn't give enough consideration to the latter peril, & fell at the last hurdle, as it were,on the stairs leading to the foyer. He landed head-first in front of an astonished night porter, who had long since been wakened from illicit slumber by the war cries of his employer.

CHARLIE curtailed his flight to offer solace, but before he could, the angry ANGUS CLAYMORE had him by the scruff of the neck. 'Bloody vandels', he roared, somewhat indelicately in CHARLIE's left ear. 'Ah wuid've thrown ye back intae the sea if ah'd known ye were going tae wreck ma hotel.' He made to strike a blow with his sword, but CHARLIE managed a feeble mental bolt which stopped him in his tracks. MAGNETO moaned feebly at his feet. 'Where am I ? What time does my performance start ? Kindly keep your poodles under control, MADAME CAPILLARY!'

The impact had indeed jolted MAGNETO's personality back to when he was MAGENTA, simple circus performer (see CEREBRO #11). CHARLIE managed to convince CLAYMORE that damages would be paid in full from the WORTHNOTHINGATALL estate, MAGNETO's followers were disbanded, MAGENTA resumed his circus career & the X-MEN returned home, unaware that they had just experienced one of the most cliched endings to adventure, even in the comics medium.

...dare I continue ??... IAN CLARK'84

ADAD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**
WANTED: Contributions for a new AUDIOzine called 'THE FANDOM GATE TAPES'. Any subject welcome: Comics, SF, Fantasy, Comedy, Music, etc. For more info, contact: DAVE PRICE, 20 AERON PLACE, GILFACH, BARGOED, MID-GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES CF8 8JA
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COMICS FOR SALE: Send SAE for list to : RAI DAVIES, 9 HILLHEAD ROAD, BOOTLE, MERSEYSIDE L20 9PF.
ADAD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**
WANTED: ANTONIO DE SARNO needs a script! It need not be about the X-MEN or for inclusion in CEREBRO. I'm willing to draw anything which appeals to me. Write to: ANTONIO DE SARNO, VIA ROMA 22, 92016 CALAMONACI (AG) SICILY, ITALY.
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COMICS FOR SALE: Send SAE for lists & wants to: IAN CLARK, 11 GREENDYKES ROAD, DUNDEE, SCOTLAND.
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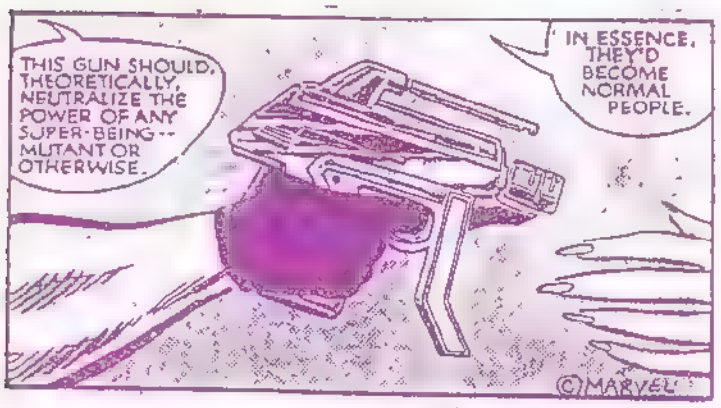
WANTED: I amresearching references to ALL newspaper & TV screen representations in MARVEL COMICS for a possible article & large appendix bibliography regarding reference to & interpretation of super-hero activity in the MARVEL UNIVERSE. Anyone interested (preferably with a large comic collection) should contact me: PAUL HAYWARD, 18 WIMBLEDON PLACE, BRADWELL COMMON, MILTON KEYNES.
AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AL**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD
I WANT TO ENCOURAGE THE CLUB DEVOTING SOME SPACE TO MICRO COMPUTERS. Would anyone owning 48k SPECTRUM computers, send me an SAE for news to their advantage: DAVID WILLIAMS 106, QUEENS AVENUE, MAESGEIRCHEN, BANGOR, GWYNEDD, NORTH WALES
ADAD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**AD**

NEUTRALISERS


THIS GUN SHOULD, THEORETICALLY, NEUTRALIZE THE POWER OF ANY SUPER-BEING -- MUTANT OR OTHERWISE.
IN ESSENCE, THEY'D BECOME NORMAL PEOPLE.
©MARVEL

Ever since CHRIS CLAREMONT introduced FORGE's 'NEUTRALISER' in X-MEN # 184, some of you members have been asking if I knew;& not to mention the repercussions it might have on physically different mutants like ANGEL or NIGHTCRAWLER. Whether this is what CLAREMONT intends is still up for debate but my solutions cover a lot of other problems as well, which you will find out about if you read on.

Despite FORGE's technological superiority, there is no way that he can design a gun which can be specific to the abilities of whichever mutant it is aimed up. Obviously, it must be surmised that he recognised a common specific trait that is possessed by all mutants. From this, the following solution fits all the criteria so far displayed.

If we accept the premise that most mutants require an additional power source for their powers to function, then there is immediately a recognisable way to 'neutralise' the ability - that does not mean you have to shut down all the fast-food joints in NEW YORK. Actually, for many mutants the energy they expend - whether it be physical, energy-based or psionic - far exceeds any traditional energy sources like digesting fresh greens & meat. For those who remember my CYCLOPS BIOLOGY I did suggest that it was within the realms of possibility that it wasn't only SCOTT SUMMERS that took his energy from the sun - a far more logical solution than relying on some unknown extra-dimensional energy source.

Plants use the sun's energy after all. In our world we use it to create VITAMIN E. Some mammals, such as cows, use it as an actual food source, so its not too large a stretch of the imagination to apply this to the MARVEL MUTANTS & very probably to the latent mutants & other beings which use super-powers.

A brief recap on how photosynthesis works. The chlorophyll of the plant uses sunlight as a catalyst to convert water & carbon dioxide into glucose & oxygen put simply. If you want more details, pick up a biology textbook.

Although the MARVEL MUTANTS don't possess chlorophyll - if they did, they'd have a greenish hue complexion, although where that puts MESMERO & IRICH (see BEAST & DAZZLER MINI-SERIES) I'm not entirely certain - they may come equipped with skin receptors which possess a similar function. Like the plants they could draw on the available carbon dioxide & atmosphere moisture (at a last resort even their own body water) & catalysed by the sunlight into glucose & oxygen. Its unlikely that anything else would be manufactured by this process, what these 2 products alone do is quite sufficient.

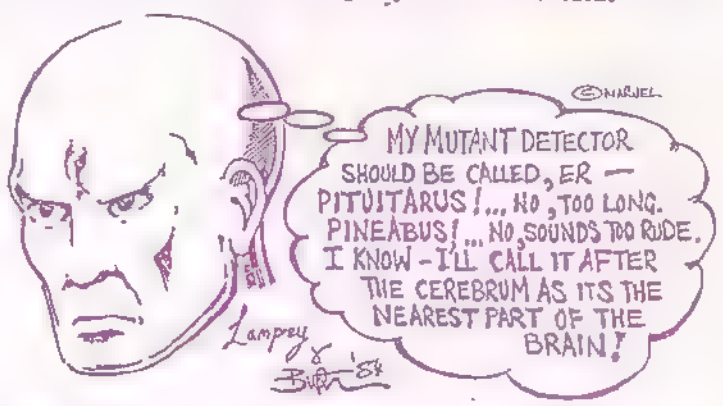
Suppose that instead of releasing the oxygen to the atmosphere, that it is fed directly into the blood stream to feed the body cells. This would cut down on fatique usually caused by the cells not having sufficient oxygen & in addi-tion provide additional stamina & endurence taking the subject out of the ordinary regular league into the 'super-human' category. All of this before even the additional glucose energy gets to the cells. Fatique poisons will still build up, of course, but as those displaying such abilities have shown this hasn't been too big a problem. Perhaps the body's additional efficiency compensates for this.

Not all of this additional energy is used in physiological benefits. Those parts of the body which are responsible for energy-generation or psionics are likely to demand more energy to work - the actual energy input to energy output is disproportional in many cases even then, but as in the case of psionics a particular range of energy is required to hit into the universe's latent natural energy & at conventional levels no mutant would be able to do this. This is how a 'latent' mutant can be differentiated from a recognised mutant - the former does not have access to that additional energy supply...yet! (Undoubtably these cells also come into function with mutated humans like the FANTASTIC FOUR & SPIDER-MAN). If we examine X-MEN # 49-50, we find that MESMERO put LORNA DANE into an energiser to bring out her latent abilities. Taken in this light, it was undoubtably used to bring those cell receptors into play. This stimulation was obviously not enough & her body slowly reverted down to more 'normal' levels until a further re-energisement by DAVAN SHAKARI. (Its interesting to point out that all the other latent mutants from these issues have never appeared again, presumably because the 'treatment' wore off.)

The storage of this extra energy must cause some problems. Either the mutant expends as fast as it is absorbed or he/she has an extra-ordinary liver which converts it to fat or to build body tissue (in adolescent mutants, general body growth). Evidence suggests against fat though but some storage must go on to cover the twilight hours, although this may heighten the glucose/oxygen manufacture if we consider that plants do much of their growth at night. This would also explain many of the super-humans nocturnal habits to use up some of this energy. Further examination of the mutants HAVOK & SUNSPOT may be a key to this as both can be regarded as an infinite battery supply.

Using this evidence, all FORGE has to do is cut off the food supply - not by taking away the sun but to 'neutralise' the mutant's energy receptors. The energy sap of the NEUTRALISER literally short-circuits the mutant body, leaving the energy receptors useless. In the case of STORM, with no way to use the energy, her flash of lightning was the reaction of any discharged capacitor. Without the receptors, STORM now feels the cold since she is no longer receiving the additional glucose to burn. Had the NEUTRALISER affected STORM's DNA it would be rather impossible for any children she might bear to possess similar abilities to herself - something CHARLES XAVIER diagnosed hadn't happened. Obviously so, since their energy receptors would still be able to function. STORM is still a mutant - but can now only be classed as latent.

This hypothesis also provides the secret as to how the mutant detectors of XAVIER, SHAW & the HELLFIRE CLUB, GYRICH, MAGNETO & FORGE work. Since XAVIER's is the oldest existing detector, I'll use CEREBRO as my example.XAVIER attributes CEREBRO to responding to the cerebellum (part of the brain). In reality it is more likely to be related to the pituitary & pinel glands, situated next to the cerebellum, since these glands are directly responsible for the body's growth & expendature of energy. Any mutant using his/her energy receptors would thus show a higher energy activation energy & easily be differentiated from the humans about them. CEREBRO's scanning wave would thus pick up energy consumption & when the mutant is using mutant abilities. XAVIER's brain interfaced with the machine would then be able to pin-point the location.


©MARVEL
MY MUTANT DETECTOR SHOULD BE CALLED, ER — PITUITARUS!... NO, TOO LONG. PINEABUS!... NO, SOUNDS TOO RUDE. I KNOW - I'LL CALL IT AFTER THE CEREBRUM AS ITS THE NEAREST PART OF THE BRAIN!
Lampey '84

Other mutant detectors would probably rely on triangulation to get the same effect. To avoid detection, the mutant would have to hide amongst other high energy sources or reduce the overall additional energy requirements, mechanically or other-wise, or similarly produce a powerful counter-signal.

This thus provides a solution to the MORLOCKS & why they aren't detected. Although it is possible to assume that depth & lead-shielded walls might cloud the signal, some of these mutants ocassionally come to the surface - although usually at night. It is also a possibility that mutants like LEECH have a natural ability to avoid detection, something other mutants in his viscinity benefit from. Being so long underground may also reduce their energy supplement so that only those with super-human physique, such as SUNDER & CALLISTO, stand out. LEECH is undoubtably the most powerful but undoubtably he's supplementing his abilities by draining from the others. The time the X-MEN were below ground merely allowed their bodies to use their already stored energy without curbing their mutant powers greatly.

From sorting out the way that FORGE's neutraliser works it has been possible to tie up the loose ends of how mutant detectors work & why the MORLOCKS haven't been detected in a nice tidy scheme which uses all the information so far shown in the comics. Whether this was intended or not I don't know, however it would be nice to know that certain eyes & ears take note that there is a logical solution to this problem.

GEOFF LAMPREY : 28.11.84

X-MEN

REPRINT INDEX PART TWO - BRITISH

Re-Intro-UK

Welcome to volume 2 of the REPRINT INDEX, which has been more fun to research than I expected since it enabled me to dig out my POWER COMICS collection yet again! I bought some of these comics when they came out, but nearly all of them were chucked away when I was too young to protect them from a determined mother. I can thank a university grant for the opportunity to acquire a complete FANTASTIC collection, toge-ther with most of the TERRIFICs & the later POWs, & I would be very grateful to hear from anyone who knows where I might get hold of the WHAMs, SMASHs & early POWs I still need! I happen to think that these comics are extremely collectable as they seem to be very rare, & so while you might not find them easy to obtain, they're worth looking for.

To reiterate a point I made in the first part of the REPRINT INDEX, its main purpose is to direct members to reprints that are cheaper than original back-issues so that they can at least fill gaps in their collections. I realize that, on average, back issues of POWER COMICS will be more expensive than any of the subsequent BRITISH MARVELs, but it would be a travesty to compile an X-MEN REPRINT INDEX without covering their appearences in FANTASTIC, & unless you were aware that they existed you couldn't judge their pros & cons for yourself.

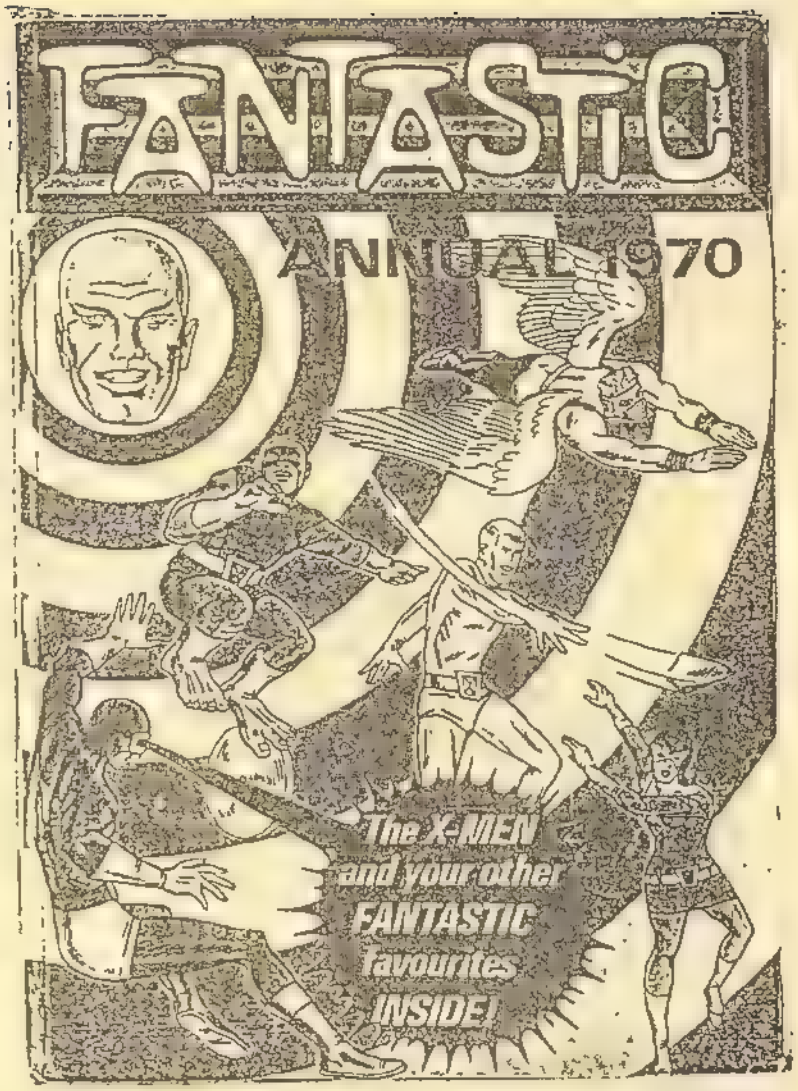
Before I get carried away with nostalgia, I should also acknowledge the reprints of several MARVEL titles in the ALAN CLASS series' - AMAZING STORIES OF SUSPENCE, CREEPY WORLDS, SINISTER TALES & UNCANNY TALES - which produced ... mostly mystery/horror short stories & strips. I was never able to find any semblance of continuity in these comics & am only aware of X-MEN ≠ 56 was reprinted in SINISTER TALES ≠ 108, along with the first 3 parts of 'THE ORIGIN OF THE ANGEL' from X-MEN ≠ 54-56.

In the mid-to-late 1960s, ODHAMS PRESS published 5 comics under the banner title 'POWER COMICS'. The early comics - SMASH, WHAM & POW - were a departure from the traditional British comic format which moved closer to the American format & paved the way for the later titles - FANTASTIC & TERRIFIC. Up until ... then, the British weekly carried over a dozen 1 or 2 page strips, whilst the U.S. superhero monthly carried either one 20 page strip or 2 strips of varying lengths. SMASH, WHAM & POW had several short strips in the British mould, but also reprinted a number of MARVEL (& later DC) titles, with upto 6 pages being allotted to each U.S. title per week. The originals were in colour & the reprints in black & white, although the more recent set of reprints by BRITISH MARVEL - the X-MEN WEEKLY & the new MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL monthly - have used colour of rather dubious quality - at least for the first few issues!

The layouts of the American originals at that time were mainly a variation on 6 square panels of 3 rows & 2 columns, or 9 rectangular panels of 3 rows & 3 columns. Such simple layouts made it easy to compile pages of upto 16 rectangular panels of 4 rows & 4 columns in the large-size page British comic, enabling a 22 page story such as FANTASTIC FOUR ≠ 28 to be condensed into around 12 pages. Careful comparison of original & reprint will show, however, that the size of certain panels had been altered to squeeze more panels into a page; & also a few word balloons were either relocated or omitted for the same reason. As we shall see later on, a similar & even more drastic method was employed at MARVEL UK under DEZ SKINN in the MARVEL SUPER-HEROES monthly.

Readers of SMASH, WHAM & POW who had not sampled the delights of the U.S. monthlies were introduced to the likes of the HULK, FANTASTIC FOUR, SPIDER-MAN & NICK FURY. They must have liked what they saw, for in FEBRUARY 1967, ODHAMS saw fit to place FANTASTIC on the newstands (promoted with TV advertising). Along with its companion, TERRIFIC, which arrived in APRIL - it was the forerunner of the British MARVEL comics we see today. Closer in page-size to the American originals, it reprinted stories page for page. In the beginning, FANTASTIC featured THOR, IRON MAN & the X-MEN, plus a short home-grown strip titled 'THE MISSING LINK' which later became 'JOHNNY FUTURE'. Initially, FANTASTIC's 40 pages comprised a complete 13 page THOR tale from JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY, half of a (usually) 20 page X-MEN story from their own book, & half of a 13 page IRON MAN story from TALES OF SUSPENSE. THE MISSING LINK/JOHNNY FUTURE - brilliantly drawn by LUIS BERMEJO - had 2 or 4 pages. There would be a couple of pages advertising developments in other POWER COMICS, including the famous half-page 'NEWS FROM THE FLOOR OF '64' (the POWER COMICS offices were at 64, LONG ACRE, LONDON WC2), & a letters page. The front cover usually reprinted an original cover, while the back cover usually featured a series of 'POWER-HOUSE PIN-UPS'. A list of the relevant covers & pin-ups follow the index.

Although the new FANTASTIC & TERRIFIC format was a more



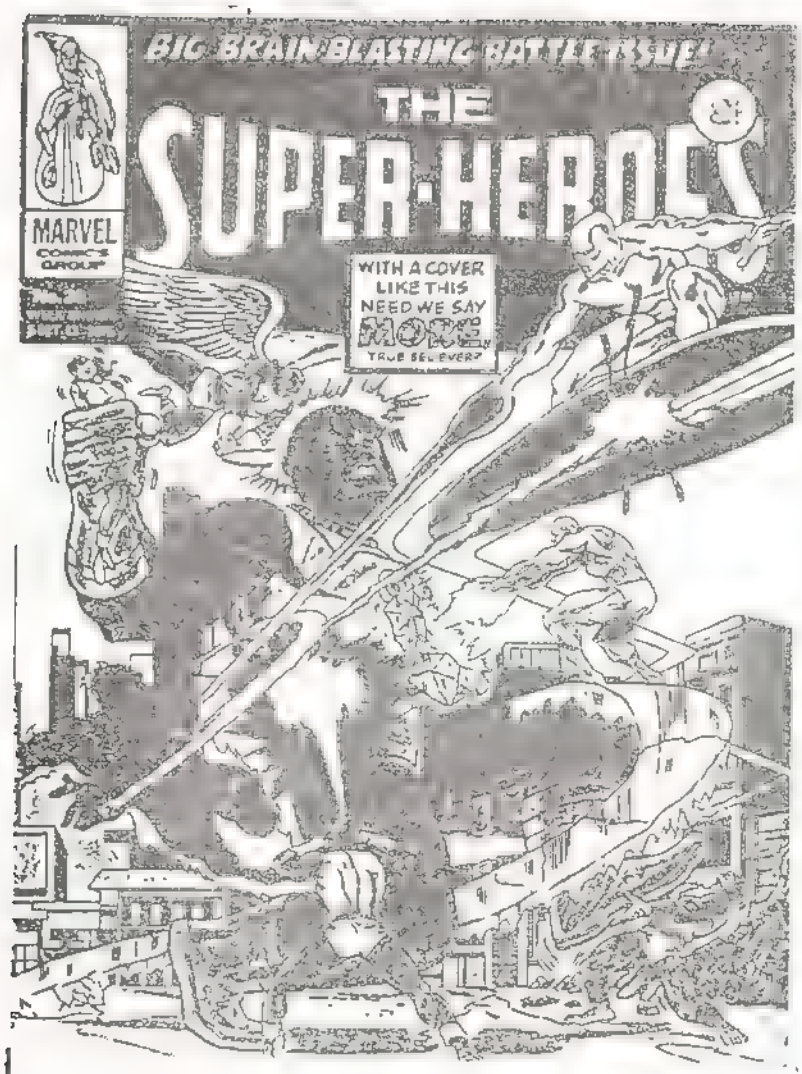
(c)ODHAMS PRESS

authentic reproduction of the original, the eagle-eyed reader may spot the odd discrepency. For example, on page 2 of the very first X-MEN story, the editors took ip upon themselves to correct BEAST & ICEMAN's grammar - 'wanna' becomes 'want to' & 'refreshin' becomes 'refreshing'. Also, American references which would be meaningless to people in this country were edited out - hence, on the splash page of the X-MEN story in FANTASTIC ≠ 88, 'THE STRAWBERRY ALARM CLOCK' - an American group to which HAWKEYE refers in AVENGERS ≠ 53 - is replaced with 'THE BEATLES'. While it can be fascinating to locate all these differences, it would serve little purpose to list them here & the only ones covered in the index are the major omissions in the reprints of X-MEN ≠ 44-45.

Continuity of the reprints was good (unlike the errors in both main attempts that BRITISH MARVEL made) although to be pedantic, the reprints of TALES OF SUSPENSE ≠ 49, FANTASTIC FOUR ≠ 28 & FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL ≠ 3 did not appear at the correct time in relation to MARVEL chronology. STRANGE TALES ≠ 120 was reprinted in the FANTASTIC SUMMER SPECIAL of 1968, while the FANTASTIC ANNUALS from 1968-70 each reprinted one complete X-MEN story: 'THE PLAGUE OF THE LOCUST' from X-MEN ≠ 24 & 'MARK OF THE MONSTER' from X-MEN ≠ 40 were to some extent obvious choices for inclusion in annuals since most of the other issues of that vintage had continuing plotlines &/or ended in cliffhangers. Neither the 'ORIGINS OF THE X-MEN' series nor other related features from X-MEN ≠ 38-57 were reprinted in POWER COMICS.

Before turning to MARVEL UK, it would be churlish not to mention some of the details which made FANTASTIC that little bit different. The logo was set on a 3-tone envelope-like background, the colour of which was changed each week from blue to yellow to green to red & back to blue again upto ≠ 70, after which there was no regular pattern. At various times during the run there were free gifts, competitions, crosswords, cartoons, anti-smoking single page strips, text stories, other short stories from the 'TALES OF THE WATCHER' series & a 'BOOB HUNT' from ≠ 76-86 (is a deliberate alteration to the panel like the removal of CYCLOPS' visor). Last but not least, the price remained at a pre-decimal 9d over the entire 89 issues - in other words for 20 months. Those were the days....

The last issue of FANTASTIC came out in OCTOBER 1968. The death knell for POWER COMICS had already been sounded at the start of that year. In JANUARY, WHAM was gobbled up by POW, & a similar fate befell TERRIFIC in FEBRUARY merging into FANTASTIC ≠ 52. The POWER COMICS line stablisised at 3 comics


BIG BRAIN BLASTING BATTLE ISSUE!
THE SUPER-HEROES
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
WITH A COVER LIKE THIS NEED WE SAY MORE
TRUE BELIEVERS

(c)MARVEL UK

Probably about the only time that you'll see the SILVER SURFER fight along with the X-MEN against the SENTINELS, or the team being defeated by the FLOB & UNUS below.

had more complex layouts which meant that on occasions rather drastic liberties were taken. Unfortunately, the effect of this policy on the reprints of most of the X-MEN originals from # 48-55 was that the large amount of panels that were altered or omitted made an already complicated continuing storyline very difficult to follow for anyone who hadn't had the advantage of previously reading the originals. Thankfully, this dreadful editing practice didn't last too far into the 1980s, & fortunately the layouts of STERANKO (X-MEN # 50-51) & ADAMS (X-MEN # 56-63 & # 65) proved impossible to tamper with, so we were at least treated to page-for-page reprints of these issues.

In case some of you out there think I'm talking about a different comic, I should perhaps point out that the NEW X-MEN didn't play any part in the POWER COMICS line since they hadn't been created then, & likewise they didn't appear in a BRITISH MARVEL title until mid-1979, by which time they had become established as one of the hottest properties in comics in terms of sales figures. Accordingly, they were given a very reasonable treatment for their reprints, being the feature strip in RAMPAGE MONTHLY from # 8 until its merger with MARVEL SUPER-HEROES MONTHLY nearly 4 years later. Continuity was good & practically each RAMPAGE reprinted a complete NEW X-MEN story, so little more needs to be said about a comic of which I'm sure most of you are aware. The only gripe I would make is about the somewhat abrupt departure of the NEW X-MEN from BRITISH MARVEL's reprint schedules - ⅔ of the way through the DR. DOOM/ARCADE trilogy.

Sudden cancellations have sadly become an established feature of comic publication - even the POWER COMICS were no exception! But while the POWER COMICS struggled through nearly 2 years without compromising their quality, we have seen over the last 8 years a somewhat desperate attempt to combat flagging sales by quick-fire marketing strategies which, obviously intended to attract casual readers, in my opinion have been unlikely to satisfy the inveterate comics reader who has commonly found his favourite strips being merged into other titles or scrapped altogether & (maybe) reintroduced at a later date. The current economic climate is unlikely to encourage any stabilisation of BRITISH MARVEL's comics range or their contents (with the exception of specialised publications such as DR.WHO MONTHLY & STARBURST, for which there are practically separate audiences). I'm afraid I must end with the pessimistic observation that we have seen the Golden Age of British reprints in POWER COMICS & the Silver Age in the UK MARVEL titles up to 1976!

IAN CLARK'84

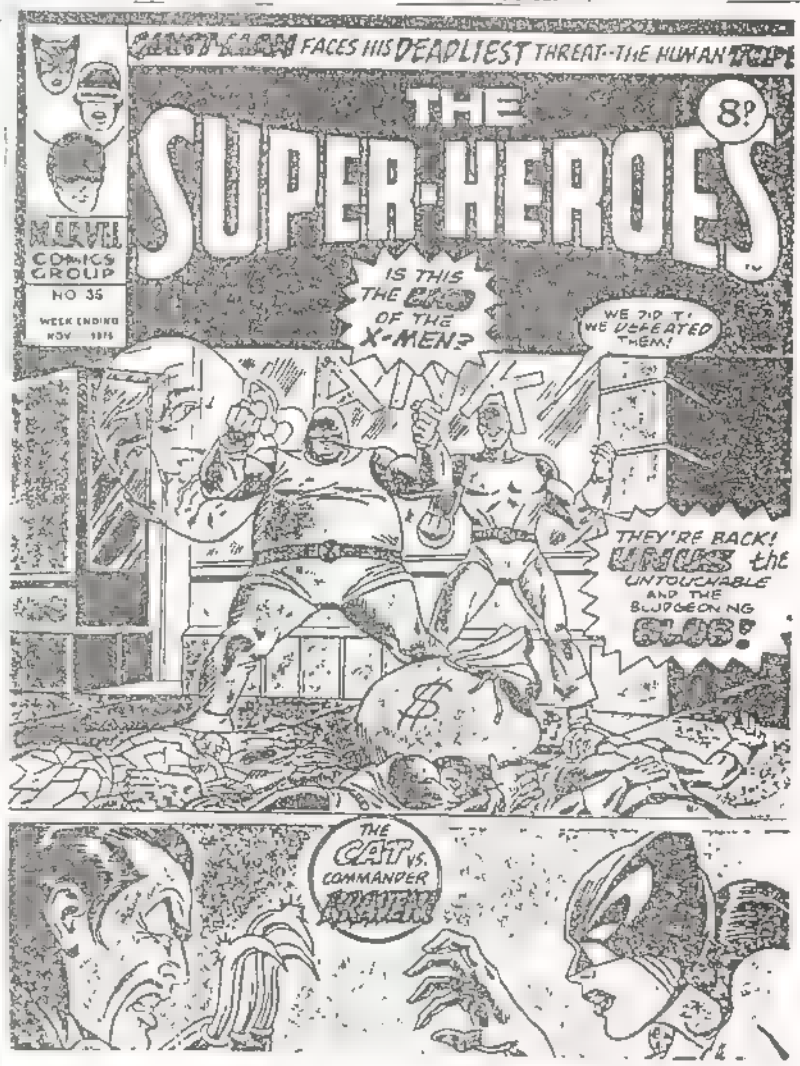
per week until SEPTEMBER, when POW fell to SMASH after 66 issues. Thus by NOVEMBER, there was only SMASH & POW # 144 which began to reprint the epic wedding of REED & SUE RICHARDS, featuring most of the MARVEL characters introduced in the previous couple of years. My somewhat hazy recollection is that soon afterwards SMASH stopped reprinting MARVEL comics altogether & slowly reverted to the traditional British format before fading into oblivion.

Almost exactly 4 years after the demise of FANTASTIC, MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL heralded the start of a long line of (mostly short-lived) comics published by MARVEL UK. Most readers will be familiar with these comics &, unlike the defunct POWER COMICS, their back-issues are quite easy to obtain, so there is little point in saying a lot about them, apart from 3 notable exceptions.

Firstly, in both the serious attempts BRITISH MARVEL made at covering a substantial number of consecutive issues of the X-MEN comic, they formed the slightly perplexing & annoying habit of reprinting stories out of sequence. Vaguely, I had wondered if their confusion might have been engendered by the American reprints in X-MEN # 69-70 which featured X-MEN # 19 before X-MEN # 17-18 (in order that the MAGNETO 2-parter could fill one 48-page issue), but the British efforts were not consistent with this; nor were they consistent with one another. Details can be found in the INDEX.

Secondly, the format of THE TITANS, while continuing to reprint page for page from the originals, was sideways to the norm ie centre-stapled along one of the short sides of the page. Each page reprinted 2 reduced original pages & to my mind represented excellent value-for-money, considering that twice as much material was reprinted at one go. THE TITANS lasted just over a year & featured one complete X-MEN story per issue during roughly the second quarter. This sideways format was also used in the SPIDER-MAN reprint comic of that period, but not in any other titles & did not last long after THE TITANS was cancelled.

Thirdly, by the time BRITISH MARVEL decided to revive the X-MEN in 1979 after a 3 year absence, another change in format had begun to affect most of their titles. The idea was pres-umably to reprint as much material as possible in the space available. Whereas the early POWER COMICS were able to do this quite effectively from simple layouts, the more-up-to-date American comics that were being reprinted in this manner


CAPTAIN AMERICA FACES HIS DEADLIEST THREAT-THE HUMAN TORCH!
THE SUPER-HEROES
8?
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
NO 35
WEEK ENDING NOV 1975
IS THIS THE END OF THE X-MEN?
WE DID IT! WE DEFEATED THEM!
THEY'RE BACK! UNUS the UNTOUCHABLE AND THE BUDGEONING FLOB!
THE CAT VS. COMMANDER

(c)MARVEL U.K.

BRITISH REPRINT INDEX

ORIGINAL	REPRINT	DATE
X-MEN # 1	FANTASTIC # 1 - 2[1]	FEB/67
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL # 49-50[2]	SEP/73
	SUPERHEROES # 1 - 2	MAR/75
	STAR HEROES POCKETBOOK # 10	1980
	MARVEL SUPERHEROES ANNUAL[3]	1982
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 1 - 2[4]	APR/83
X-MEN # 2	FANTASTIC # 3 - 4	FEB/67
	SUPERHEROES # 3 - 4	MAR/75
	STAR HEROES POCKETBOOK # 11	1980
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 3 - 4	MAY/83
X-MEN # 3	FANTASTIC ANNUAL	1968
	SUPERHEROES # 5 - 6[5]	APR/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 12	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 5 - 6	JUN/83
TALES OF SUSPENCE # 49	FANTASTIC # 11	APR/67
	SPIDER-MAN COMICS WEEKLY #77-78*	AUG/73
X-MEN # 4	FANTASTIC # 5 - 6[6]	MAR/67
	SUPERHEROES # 7 - 8	APR/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 12	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 7 - 8	JUN/83
X-MEN # 5	FANTASTIC # 7 - 8[7]	MAR/67
	SUPERHEROES # 9 - 10	MAY/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 13	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 9 - 10[8]	JUL/83
STRANGE TALES #120	FANTASTIC SUMMER SPECIAL*	1968
FANTASTIC FOUR # 28	POW & WHAM # 56 - 58*	FEB/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL #57 - 58[9]	DEC/73
	FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL	1980
X-MEN # 6	FANTASTIC # 9 - 10	APR/67
	SUPERHEROES # 11 - 12	MAY/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 13	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 11 - 12[10]	JUL/83
X-MEN # 7	FANTASTIC # 12 - 13[11]	MAY/67
	SUPERHEROES # 13 - 14	JUN/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 14	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 13 - 14	AUG/83
X-MEN # 8	FANTASTIC # 14 - 15	MAY/67
	SUPERHEROES # 21	JUL/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 14	1981
	X-MEN WEEKLY # 15 - 17	AUG/83
X-MEN # 9	FANTASTIC # 16 - 17[12]	JUN/67
	SUPERHEROES # 22	AUG/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 15	1981
FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL # 3	SMASH & POW 144 - ??*	NOV/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL # 92-93[13]	JUL/74
	FANTASTIC FOUR POCKETBOOK # 1	1980
X-MEN # 10	FANTASTIC # 18 - 19	JUN/67
	SUPERHEROES # 23 - 24	AUG/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 15	1981
X-MEN # 11	FANTASTIC # 20 - 21	JUL/67
	SUPERHEROES # 15 - 16	JUN/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 16	1981
X-MEN # 12	FANTASTIC # 22 - 23	JUL/67
	SUPERHEROES # 17 - 18*	JUN/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 18*	1981
X-MEN # 13	FANTASTIC # 24 - 25	AUG/67
	SUPERHEROES # 19 - 20	JUL/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 17	1981
RAMPAGING HULK # 2	RAMPAGE MONTHLY # 2*	AUG/78
X-MEN # 14	FANTASTIC # 26 - 27	AUG/67
	SUPERHEROES # 25 - 26	AUG/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 17	1981
X-MEN # 15	FANTASTIC # 28 - 29	SEP/67
	SUPERHEROES # 27 - 28*	SEP/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 18*	1981
X-MEN # 16	FANTASTIC # 30 - 31	SEP/67
	SUPERHEROES # 29	SEP/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 16	1981
X-MEN # 17	FANTASTIC # 32 - 33	SEP/67
	SUPERHEROES # 30	SEP/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 19	1981
X-MEN # 18	FANTASTIC # 34 - 35	OCT/67
	SUPERHEROES # 31 - 32	OCT/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 19	1981
X-MEN # 19	FANTASTIC # 36 - 37	OCT/67
	SUPERHEROES # 33 - 34	OCT/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 20	1981
X-MEN # 20	FANTASTIC # 38 - 39	NOV/67
	SUPERHEROES # 35 - 36	NOV/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 20	1981
X-MEN # 21	FANTASTIC # 40 - 41	NOV/67
	SUPERHEROES # 37 - 38	NOV/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 20	1981
X-MEN # 22	FANTASTIC # 42 - 43[14]	DEC/67
	SUPERHEROES # 39 - 40[15]	DEC/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 20	1981
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 20 - 21[16]	SEP/83
X-MEN # 23	FANTASTIC # 44 - 45	DEC/67
	SUPERHEROES # 41 - 42	DEC/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 21	1981
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 22 - 23[17]	SEP/83
X-MEN # 24	FANTASTIC ANNUAL	1969
	SUPERHEROES # 43 - 44	DEC/75
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 21	1981
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 24 - 25	OCT/83
X-MEN # 25	FANTASTIC # 46 - 47	JAN/68
	TITANS # 13	JAN/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 22	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 26 - 27	OCT/83
X-MEN # 26	FANTASTIC # 48 - 49	JAN/68
	TITANS # 14	JAN/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 22	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 28 - 29	NOV/83
X-MEN # 27	FANTASTIC # 50 - 51[18]	FEB/68
	TITANS # 15	JAN/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 23	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 30 - 31	NOV/83
X-MEN # 28	FANTASTIC # 52 - 54	FEB/68
	TITANS # 16	JAN/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 23	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 32 - 33	DEC/83
X-MEN # 29	FANTASTIC # 55 - 56	MAR/68
	TITANS # 17	FEB/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 24	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 34 - 35	DEC/83
X-MEN # 30	FANTASTIC # 57 - 58	MAR/68
	TITANS # 18[19a]	FEB/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 24	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 36 - 37[19b]	DEC/83
X-MEN # 31	FANTASTIC # 59 - 60	APR/68
	TITANS # 19	FEB/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 25	1982
	THOR & X-MEN WEEKLY # 38 - 39	JAN/84
X-MEN # 32	FANTASTIC # 61 - 62[20]	APR/68
	TITANS # 20	FEB/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 25	1982
	SPIDERMAN/AMAZING FRIENDS #567-571	JAN/84
X-MEN # 33	FANTASTIC # 63 - 64	MAY/68
	TITANS # 21	MAR/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK # 26	1982
	SPIDERMAN/AMAZING FRIENDS #572-575	FEB/84

ORIGINAL	REPRINT	DATE
X-MEN ≠ 34	FANTASTIC ≠ 65 - 66	MAY/68
	TITANS ≠ 22	MAR/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK ≠ 26	1982
	SPIDERMAN/AMAZING FRIENDS ≠ 576-578	MAR/84
X-MEN ≠ 35	FANTASTIC ≠ 67 - 68	MAY/68
	TITANS ≠ 23	MAR/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK ≠ 27	1982
X-MEN ≠ 36	FANTASTIC ≠ 69 - 70	JUN/68
	TITANS ≠ 24	APR/76
	X-MEN POCKETBOOK ≠ 27	1982
X-MEN ≠ 37	FANTASTIC ≠ 71 - 73	JUN/68
	TITANS ≠ 25	APR/76
X-MEN ≠ 38	FANTASTIC ≠ 74 - 76	JUL/68
	TITANS ≠ 26	APR/76
BACK-UP ORIGIN	TITANS ≠ 26	APR/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 1	APR/83
X-MEN ≠ 39	FANTASTIC ≠ 77 - 79	AUG/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 187-188	MAY/76
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 188	MAY/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 2	APR/83
X-MEN ≠ 40	FANTASTIC ANNUAL	1970
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 189-190	MAY/76
	TITANS ANNUAL	1977
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 190	MAY/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 3	MAY/83
X-MEN ≠ 41	FANTASTIC ≠ 80 - 81	AUG/68
	MIHHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 191-192	JUN/76
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 192	JUN/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 4	MAY/83
X-MEN ≠ 42	FANTASTIC ≠ 82 - 83	SEP/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 193-194	JUN/76
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 194	JUN/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 5	JUN/83
X-MEN ≠ 43	FANTASTIC ≠ 84 - 85	SEP/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 195-196	JUN/76
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 196	JUN/76
BACK-UP ORIGIN	TITANS ANNUAL	1977
	MARVEL COMIC ≠ 335[21]	MAR/79
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 6	JUN/83
X-MEN ≠ 44	FANTASTIC ≠ 86[22]	OCT/68
	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 197-198	JUL/76
	MARVEL COMIC ≠ 351[23]	JUL/79
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL ≠ 198	JUL/76
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 7	JUN/83
X-MEN ≠ 45	FANTASTIC ≠ 87[24]	OCT/68
	MARVEL COMIC ≠ 352/MSUPERHEROES ≠ 353[25]	AUG/79
BACK-UP ORIGIN	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 8	JUN/83
AVENGERS ≠ 53	FANTASTIC ≠ 88 - 89	OCT/68
	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 353[26]	SEP/79
X-MEN ≠ 46	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 354[27]	OCT/79
BACK-UP ORIGIN	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 9	JUL/83
X-MEN ≠ 47	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 355[28]	NOV/79
BACK-UP ORIGIN	MARVEL COMIC ≠ 336	APR/79
	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 10	JUL/83
X-MEN ≠ 48	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 356[29]	DEC/79
BACK-UP ORIGIN	X-MEN WEEKLY ≠ 11	JUL/83
X-MEN ≠ 49	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 357[30]	JAN/80
X-MEN ≠ 50	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 358	FEB/80
X-MEN ≠ 51	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 359	MAR/80
X-MEN ≠ 52	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 360[31]	APR/80
X-MEN ≠ 53	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 361[32]	MAY/80
X-MEN ≠ 54	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 362[33]	JUN/80

ORIGINAL	REPRINT	DATE
X-MEN ≠ 55	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 363[34]	JUL/80
BACK-UP ORIGIN	X-MEN WINTER SPECIAL	1981
X-MEN ≠ 56	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 364-365	AUG/80
	X-MEN ANNUAL	1982
BACK-UP ORIGIN	X-MEN WINTER SPECIAL	1981
X-MEN ≠ 57	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 365[35]	SEP/80
	X-MEN ANNUAL[36]	1982
BACK-UP ORIGIN	TITANS ANNUAL	1977
	MARVEL COMIC ≠ 350[37]	JUL/79
X-MEN ≠ 58	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 366	OCT/80
	X-MEN ANNUAL[38]	1982
X-MEN ≠ 59	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 367	NOV/80
	X-MEN ANNUAL[39]	1982
X-MEN ≠ 60	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 368	DEC/80
X-MEN ≠ 61	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 369-370[40]	JAN/81
X-MEN ≠ 62	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 371-372[41]	MAR/81
X-MEN ≠ 63	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 373-374	MAY/81
X-MEN ≠ 64	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 375-376	JUL/81
X-MEN ≠ 65	MARVEL SUPER-HEROES ≠ 377	SEP/81
X-MEN ≠ 66	**HAS YET TO BE REPRINTED IN THE U.K.**	
X-MEN GIANT-SIZE ≠ 1	RAMPAGE ≠ 8 - 10	FEB/79
X-MEN ≠ 94	RAMPAGE ≠ 11[42]	MAY/79
X-MEN ≠ 95	RAMPAGE ≠ 12 - 13	JUN/79
X-MEN ≠ 96	RAMPAGE ≠ 14	AUG/79
X-MEN ≠ 97	RAMPAGE ≠ 15[43]	SEP/79
X-MEN ≠ 98	RAMPAGE ≠ 16	OCT/79
X-MEN ≠ 99	RAMPAGE ≠ 17	NOV/79
X-MEN ≠ 100	RAMPAGE ≠ 18	DEC/79
X-MEN ≠ 101	RAMPAGE ≠ 19	JAN/80
X-MEN ≠ 102	RAMPAGE ≠ 20	FEB/80
X-MEN ≠ 103	RAMPAGE ≠ 21	MAR/80
X-MEN ≠ 104	RAMPAGE ≠ 22	APR/80
X-MEN ≠ 105	RAMPAGE ≠ 23	MAY/80
X-MEN ≠ 106	RAMPAGE ≠ 24	JUN/80
X-MEN ≠ 107	RAMPAGE ≠ 25[44]	JUL/80
X-MEN ≠ 108	RAMPAGE ≠ 26	AUG/80
X-MEN ≠ 109	RAMPAGE ≠ 27	SEP/80
X-MEN ≠ 110	RAMPAGE ≠ 28	OCT/80
X-MEN ≠ 111	RAMPAGE ≠ 29[45]	NOV/80
X-MEN ≠ 112	RAMPAGE ≠ 30	DEC/80
X-MEN ≠ 113	RAMPAGE ≠ 31	JAN/81
X-MEN ≠ 114	RAMPAGE ≠ 32	FEB/81
X-MEN ≠ 115	RAMPAGE ≠ 33	MAR/81
X-MEN ≠ 116	RAMPAGE ≠ 34[46]	APR/81
X-MEN ≠ 117	RAMPAGE ≠ 35 - 36[47]	MAY/81
X-MEN ≠ 118	RAMPAGE ≠ 36[48]	JUN/81
X-MEN ≠ 119	RAMPAGE ≠ 37	JUL/81
X-MEN ≠ 120	RAMPAGE ≠ 38	AUG/81
X-MEN ≠ 121	RAMPAGE ≠ 39	SEP/81

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